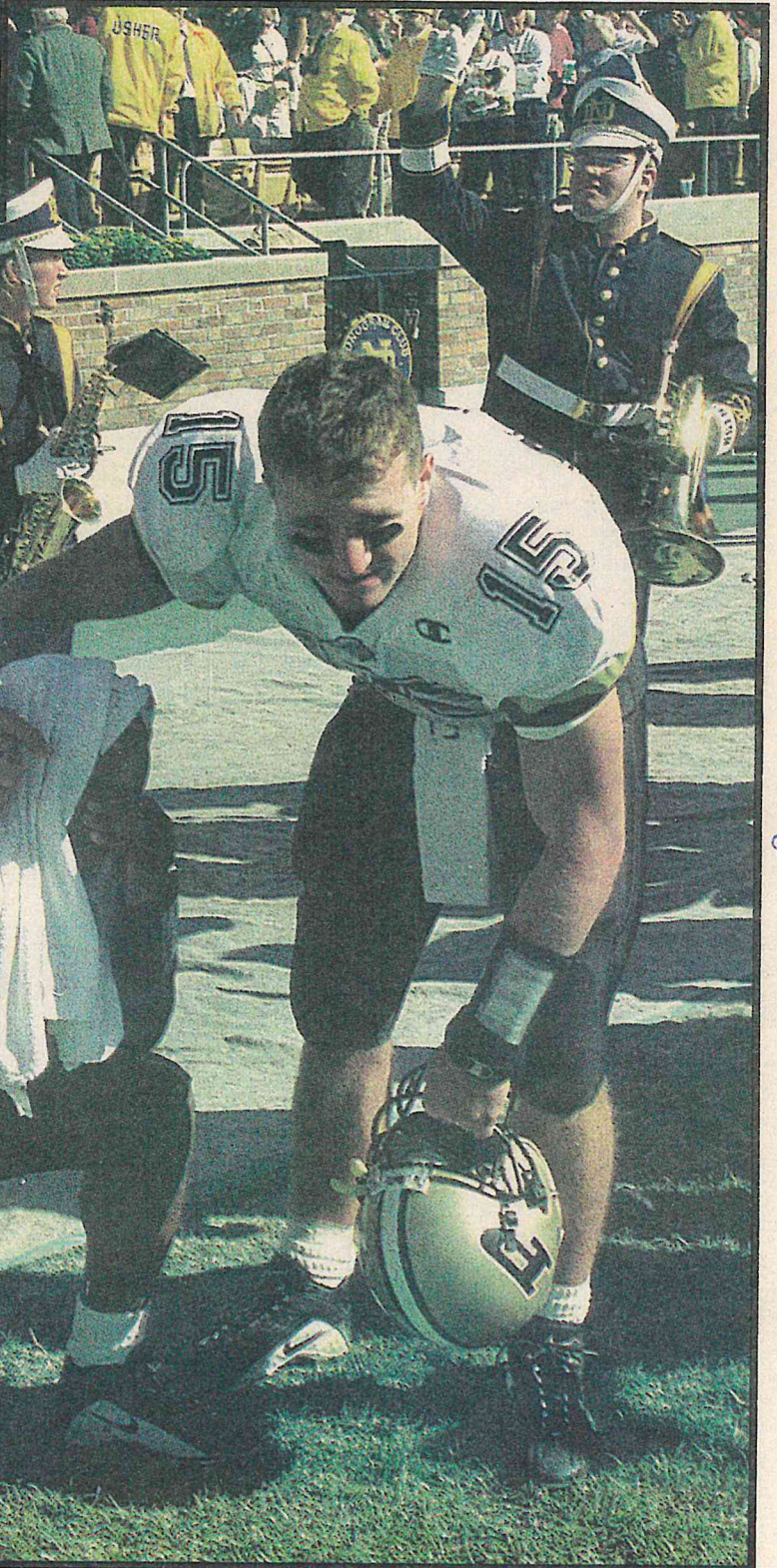


GOLD & BLACK

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 4 • SEPT. 22, 2000

ILLUSTRATED



NOT AGAIN

Last-Second
Notre Dame
Field Goal
Dooms
Purdue

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24 HOURS LATER WITH JOE TILLER

Mo(u)rning Sickness

Each Sunday, Gold and Black Illustrated will talk with Coach Joe Tiller every Sunday following Saturday's games, getting his most recent thoughts on Saturday's game after he's analyzed it on film.

Q: What were your thoughts on the game after watching the tape?

Tiller: "It made me physically ill that we lost the game."

Q: Talk about the performance of your offense.

Tiller: "There were some things we did well offensively. Obviously we ran the ball well for the most part. And we very good on first down and very good on third down. We always talk about first-down efficiency and we were successful on 19-of-29 attempts, meaning getting four or more yards."

"We were OK on third down. We're getting spoiled around here in that we think we should convert 70 percent, but nobody around the country is doing that. We should expect that, but we were 7-of-14 on third down, which is 50 percent. That's what our goal is, 50 percent or higher."

"A very positive thing late was when we had to score to take the lead and we went down and scored. I thought it was interesting after the game as I walked to the bus and overheard a conversation where somebody said we scored too early. I don't know, but you take a score whenever you can, particularly in a game like that."

Q: The defense performed well with the exception of Notre Dame's final drive. Talk about its performance.

Tiller: "The defense played well enough for us to win the game with the exception of the last drive. They played through adversity, particularly early. They played physical and with great emotion. (Notre Dame) finished with 78 yards rushing, and I doubt anyone will hold them to that the rest of the year. I don't know how we could have played better in the game defensively, with the exception of the last drive. Otherwise that's as good a game of defense as we've played around here."

Q: Talk about (sophomore running backs) Montrell Lowe and Sedrick Brown, both of whom played well.

Tiller: "We like the way both of them played, more so with Montrell. He ran with a lot more recklessness than he had in the first two games. Maybe he was a little bit tentative in the first two games, whether it was his shoulder (injury) coming out of training camp or whether it was him thinking if he made a mistake he'd be out of the lineup. Outside of laying the ball on the ground that one time, he ran pretty close to how he did last year. We hope that will continue. It's our intention to start him next week."

"Sed Brown had his moments, too. He's a guy who can catch the football, is a pretty good blocker and he's a little more patient as a runner, which he has to be because he doesn't have great speed."

Q: With Lowe and Brown coming off solid games, where does that leave classmate Steve Ennis, who started the first two games but saw only special teams action at Notre Dame?

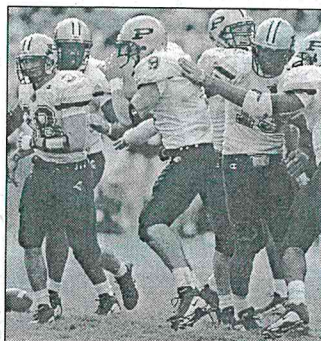
Tiller: "Ennis didn't get a chance to play, but that was because as the game progressed, we felt like Lowe was playing well and we didn't want to get involved in a three-man rotation. We think that's too much. We'd like to play just two backs every game, so they can get a better feel for the game."

"He has (fallen behind the others) because the other two guys have taken advantage of an opportunity and that's what it's all about. You always look for a player to separate himself from the pack, and I think Lowe did a little bit of that Saturday. And Brown certainly didn't hurt himself. That's the way it goes."

Q: On Notre Dame's final drive, did they do the same things offensively that they'd done throughout the game?

Tiller: "We hurt ourselves on the last drive. The 10 penalties are kind of a bur under our saddle right now. We're not too happy about that, particularly the late penalties."

"We also had a situation on that last drive when (tailback Julius Jones) had an 8-yard run on third down. On that play, we ran the defense we had been running the whole game. For some unknown reason, though, we had a player who just went to the wrong gap. We successfully executed



Freshman Stu Schweigert's interception was one of the highlights of a superb defensive performance by Purdue.

it several times in the game, but we hit the wrong gap. That opened a seam and they got a big play out of it.

"I don't think they did a lot differently, other than throwing the curl routes."

Q: After the game, you said your team ran the ball too much. Do you still feel that way?

Tiller: "Any time we run the football more than we pass it, it's too much for me."

"But the running game allowed us to get some things going. We weren't executing our passing game particularly well early. As time went along, we got a little better throwing. Late, we ran the ball because Montrell Lowe picked it up and there were some things there that were just too good not to do. I can't say we ran it too much, but we're only happy if we win the football game."

Q: Were there any injuries?

Tiller: "We got really good news in that department. Both (Brent) Botts and (Brian) Dinkins came through the game unscathed and should be better next week. The only thing that happened is Ralph Turner has a little bit of an ankle problem, but it's not significant. He's been cleared to practice (Sunday)."

"I said it last week and I'll say it again, but this is the healthiest we've been since we opened training camp. Hopefully we can keep it that way."

Q: After watching the film, explain what happened on the blocked punt and interception, both of which occurred in the first quarter leading to Notre Dame touchdowns.

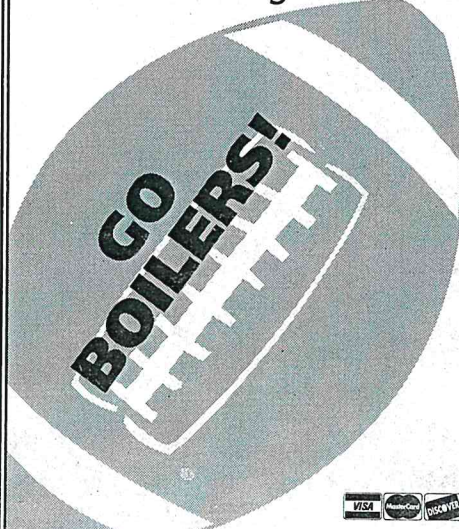
Tiller: "On the blocked punt, we had a player breakdown. After watching the thing on tape, though, I'm not so sure that if our personal protector, Alex Tone, hadn't come over to help, he wouldn't have blocked the kick. Alex kind of knocked the guy into the ball. The guy was coming across the field and I think he would have wound up on the far side of the punter because our blocker (Ralph Turner) was pushing him in that direction. But our protector slipped over, straightened him out and ran him right into the punter."

"On the interception it was just lack of experience. Though I'll give Notre Dame credit. No. 30 (Rocky Boiman) ran a mix where the tackle goes out and the end rushes inside. He rushed all the way across the field and chased Drew (Brees). Had Drew been able to set his feet, I think he would have been able to see that DB (Glenn Earl) break under (John) Standeford. John hasn't been in the offense long enough to know that when you cross a formation like that and get to the far side, you don't drift up the field. If you drift up the field and the defensive back is trailing you, that allows him to break underneath you and intercept the ball. If you continue straight along the line of scrimmage, then the defensive back has to come through you to make a play on the ball."

"I'm not going to place blame on John because he is still learning, and this will be a lesson for him. But Drew threw the ball where our receiver should have been and the DB did a nice job coming from underneath." **MM**

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ON THE COVER

Two years ago, Notre Dame beat Purdue in South Bend in the final minute on a late field goal. On Sept. 16, the Fighting Irish repeated the feat, as sophomore Nick Setta nailed a 38-yard field goal as time expired to down the Boilermakers 23-21.

Cover and University Spirit photos by Tom Campbell

BOILERS MUST NOT COMPOUND NOTRE DAME MISTAKES

The only thing worse for Purdue than giving the game away to Notre Dame, would be to fail to rebound with a winning performance against Minnesota.

That will be the message from the coaches throughout the week, but it will be up to the players to produce it.

The loss in South Bend is devastating, no doubt. But it does not have to ruin the Boilermakers' dream of taking their program to another level — the primary goal of the 2000 season. How Tiller's troops deal with falling short of their first major hurdle of the season goes a long way in determining if the program has matured or not.

There are plenty of examples on the national scene of highly-regarded teams who have crumbled early in the season. Alabama, a preseason top-five team, is 1-2. Michigan has lost a game and Penn State, well, what has happened to the Nittany Lions has to have Coach Joe Paterno thinking of retirement.

Purdue needs to put the preseason Heisman and Rose Bowl talk on hold, stare down its opponent on a weekly basis and get to work. No one gave 2000 Rose Bowl champ Wisconsin and its eventual Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne a chance last year after it stubbed its toe in a major way at Cincinnati and then lost a week later at home to Michigan.

But, you piggyback a Minnesota loss on

the heels of an emotional defeat at Notre Dame, and the Boilermakers may be making holiday plans for Detroit instead of Pasadena.

By now, you have read how the Boilermakers gift-wrapped 17 points to the Irish. It has been well documented in the media and often spoken among fans that the Tiller regime will not be totally validated until it posts wins against one of the "Big Boys" on the road.

The disturbing trend is the Boilermakers have been into self-mutilation in many of those losses. Purdue outplayed eventual Big Ten champ Wisconsin in Madison in 1998, but lost. Last year at Ohio State, two critical special teams errors cost the Boilermakers a win in Columbus. Even in crucial home losses against Wisconsin and Penn State in '99, interceptions and fumbles returned for touchdowns spelled doom for the Old Gold and Black. The Outback Bowl, well you know that story.

It's simple.

Eliminate the errors, many of which are unforced, and the Boilers are capable of winning anywhere — Happy Valley, "The Shoe," the Big House or the outhouse, for that matter.

There will also be a lot of discussion of the Boilermakers' decision to keep the ball on the ground so much against the Irish. One



South Bend radio personality commented after the game that it was the "worst game plan he had ever seen."

I don't buy that line of thinking.

The Boilermaker offense chewed up enough real estate to score five touchdowns against a pretty good Notre Dame defense. The physical Irish secondary had its way with Purdue's young receivers, leaving junior Tim

Stratton and senior Vinny Sutherland the only real threats downfield.

The complementary passing game, along with a strong running game, was more than enough to deliver the Boilers their first win at Notre Dame in 26 years.

"If we throw 22 times and win, that's great," said senior quarterback Drew Brees.

If Irish kicker Nick Setta fades his kick another two feet, no one focuses on how little the Boilers threw.

STICK A FORK IN BOB

I think the former Purdue players' and coaches' comments you'll read in Overtime on pages 27-29 adequately mirror the sentiment in the Purdue camp regarding Bob Knight's abrupt departure from IU. For many, it will be different not having Knight as one of the focal points of the Boilermaker faithful's wrath.

The myriad of media attention, especially

in the state of Indiana, almost put this event on the level of the Princess Diana or JFK funeral coverage. Sifting through all the analysis, I found one of the most insightful to be from Kentucky sportswriter William F. "Billy" Reed. One of the anointed seven scribes invited to Knight's press conference when the Neil Reed "crisis" hit this past spring, Billy Reed was close to Knight.

"Bob Knight is one of the greatest students of history and sports history I have ever known," Reed said on *WLS Radio* in Chicago. "Still he failed to learn that trying to take on a President of a major university will ultimately end in failure. Adolph Rupp did it and lost, and so did Phog Allen (legendary basketball coach at Kansas). Woody Hayes never thought the administration would dump him even after he punched Charlie Bauman in Jacksonville."

Reed's comments are true, but the common thread among the above-mentioned coaching legends, including Knight, is that it took a dip in the win column for each to be vulnerable.

Here's hoping that university presidents learn to effectively deal with problems like this one, so that matters can be solved without excessive bitterness. In the days following his termination, Knight was quick to thank Indiana University executives that preceded his slayer Myles Brand. Had Knight's bosses early in his career had the courage to discipline him properly, however, "Coach" might still be employed in Bloomington. **AK**

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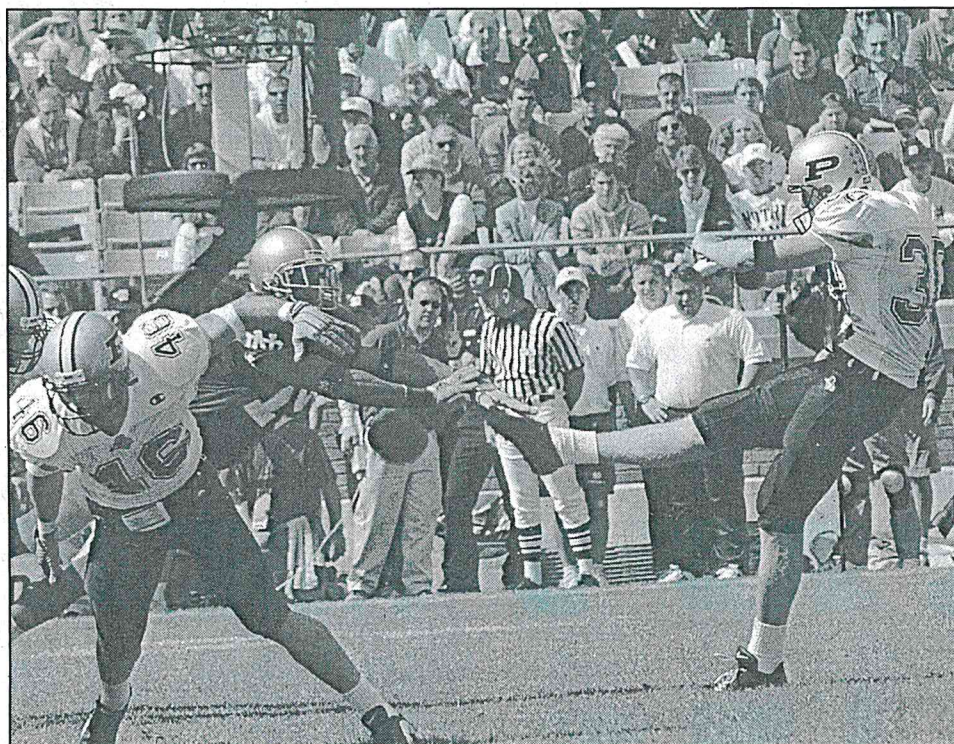


Aaron Cooke

NO. 21 NOTRE DAME 23, NO. 13 PURDUE 21

SAME PLACE, SAME RESULT

Irish Last-Second Field Goal Beats Boilers



BY DOUG GRIFFITHS

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Just when you thought Purdue couldn't suffer a more heartbreaking defeat than the 1998 demise at Notre Dame, it did.

The 13th-ranked Boilermakers looked as though they had finally beaten the Irish in Notre Dame Stadium Sept. 16, only to see the Blue and Gold rally in typical Notre Dame fashion in the waning seconds.

Irish kicker Nick Setta's 38-yard field goal barely crept inside the right upright as time expired enabling Notre Dame to nip Purdue, 23-21. The loss ended the Boilermakers' bid for a victory at a place they haven't won since 1974 (12 straight). Irish students spilled onto the field, while a dejected Purdue team walked up the tunnel thinking about what might have been.

"You dream about times like this," said Setta, who was lifted on his teammates' shoulders as the Irish celebrated on the field. "This is what you come here for. The offense gave me good position so that was all I could do (make the field goal)."

"You kick a game-winner at Notre Dame, there's nothing like it."

"All we could do was hope he would shank the ball," said Coach Joe Tiller, who saw Setta miss a 39-yard field goal in the third quarter.

Purdue's last trip to Notre Dame in 1998, ended in defeat, too, due to a game-winning field goal. Notre Dame needed a 17-yard boot with less than a minute remaining to beat Purdue, 31-30, two years ago.

The Irish, who are 2-1 this season, needed another late rally this year to escape with a victory after the

Mistakes were lethal to Purdue as Boilermaker errors handed Notre Dame 17 of its 23 points. On its first possession of the game, punter Travis Dorsch had this punt blocked by sophomore strong safety Glenn Earl, leading to the game's first touchdown.

Boilermakers took their only lead.

Quarterback Drew Brees led Purdue on a 12-play, 77-yard drive, which was capped by a fabulous 22-yard catch by receiver Vinny Sutherland in the end zone. Brees' second touchdown pass of the day gave the visitors a 21-20 lead with 3:39 left in the game. The drive was set up by Notre Dame's lone turnover of the game, an interception thrown by Gary Godsey.

"It was one of those drives where everything was clicking," tackle Matt Light said. "If we had a chance to get back on the field after they kicked the field goal, we probably would have done the same thing."

Even though Sutherland was excited that the Boilermakers took the lead, he was worried there was too much time remaining.

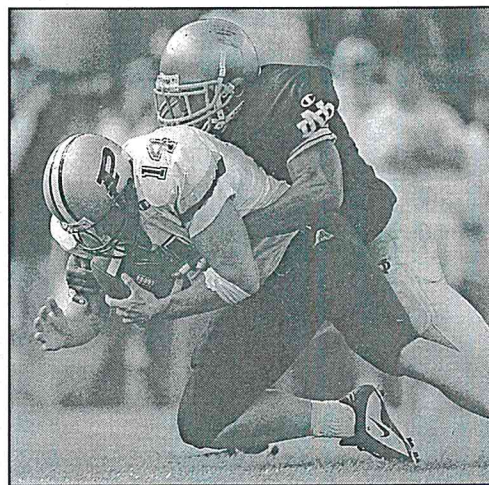
"I thought we scored maybe a little too quick," he said. "You should never give the ball back to a good team like Notre Dame with that much time left."

Brees' second TD pass to Sutherland tied him with former Purdue quarterback Mark Herrmann for the most scoring passes (71) in school history.

"(It was a) heck of a good football game," said Tiller, whose Boilermakers are 2-1 and lost for the second straight time (Outback Bowl to Georgia) away from Ross-Ade Stadium due to a game-winning field goal.

"This Purdue series has turned into an unbelievable series," Davie said. "We've had four games that have just been unbelievable."

INSIDE THE BOILERMAKERS



Tom Campbell

Who's **HOT**

Vinny Sutherland

Wide receiver Vinny Sutherland was practically unstoppable against the Fighting Irish. The speedy senior was Purdue's deep threat, kick returner, punt returner and even a rusher on reverses. Sutherland finished with 227 yards of total offense and caught two touchdown passes. It was one of his most consistent all-around performances at Purdue.

The punt team will get the nod this week. Notre Dame set the tone for the game just minutes into the contest by blocking Purdue's first punt.

Who's **NOT**

Also, there was another punt that almost got blocked in the second half. When the Boilermaker punt team was trying to cover the Fighting Irish, they almost let Joey Getherall score on a return. Improvements need to be made before the Big Ten opener with Minnesota.

No **SCOOP**

The infamous bubble screen, which before the game was tabbed a "sissy play" by ND safety Tony Driver, was ultimately taken away from the Boilermakers. Notre Dame, which was vulnerable to the play in the past, made adjustments and kept Purdue from calling its bread-and-butter play even once.

● Freshman offensive tackle Kelly Butler has an injured rotator cuff but practiced leading up to the Notre Dame game.

We'd be thrilled with the performance put forth by an awfully young defense in a game as big as this one. Coordinator Brock Spack's unit, which is extremely athletic and fast, yielded just six points on drives 50 yards or longer. Overall, the Boilermakers allowed a mere 236 yards of total offense to Notre Dame.



Kicker Travis Dorsch is going to be considered one of the best punters in the country by December. He booted four punts for an average of 51.8 yards. Dorsch, a great athlete, made a terrific touchdown-saving tackle on the second-half opening kickoff, too. Also, look for true freshman safety Stu Schweigert to see more playing time as the Big Ten season progresses. The former high school All-American had his first career interception and finished with three tackles and deflected two passes.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON

"I thought it was a big-time game, a tremendous college football game. I know how Joe Tiller and Purdue feel right now because I've been there, in fact I was there last year (when Purdue beat the Irish 28-23 after stopping Notre Dame on the 1-yard line as time expired).

The teams have split those four games, which have been decided by a total of 19 points, including three by eight. It marked the third straight time in the once lopsided rivalry that the game was decided in the final minute. Before that, Notre Dame won 11 straight against Purdue with none of the games decided by less than a touchdown.

The latest battle was a comedy of errors for the Boilermakers, although the Old Gold and Black wasn't laughing much.

The Irish scored 17 points off Purdue mis-

cues.

Purdue got off to a horrific start. After the Irish won the coin toss and deferred, the Boilermakers went three-and-out on their first possession. Purdue's first blunder of the day came on Travis Dorsch's punt when Irish strong safety Glenn Earl blew by linebacker Alex Tone and safety Ralph Turner and blocked it. Turner recovered the ball at Purdue's 4.

Assistant head coach Scott Downing, who is also the Boilermakers' special teams coach, said on the blocked punt a Notre Dame player was showing outside and then came inside messing up the blocking scheme. Sutherland was on the right sideline along the bottom of the field. The man lined up across him jumped inside on the line of scrimmage a second or two before the snap, so that gave the Irish an

extra man to rush. Then Earl beat Turner on the inside and got between him and Tone.

Three plays later Gary Godsey, making his first start at quarterback in a Notre Dame uniform, rushed in from nine yards out as safety Brady Doe (who led Purdue with eight tackles) missed a tackle inside the 5. The Irish led 7-0 less than three minutes into the game.

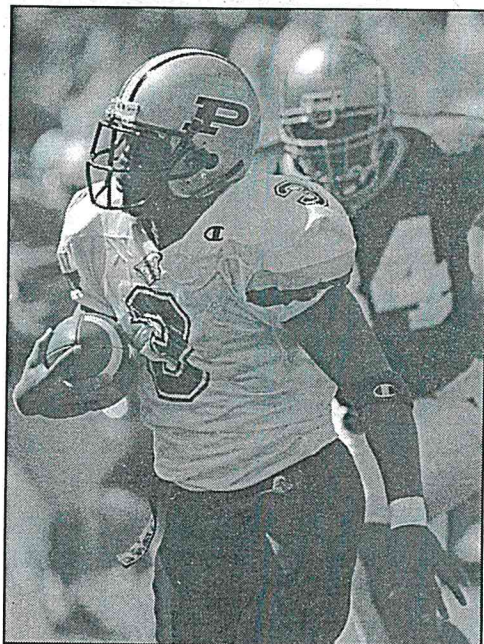
Purdue's next miscue came later in the opening 15 minutes. Cornerback Shane Walton intercepted a Brees' pass and returned it 60 yards to give Notre Dame a 14-0 lead with 3:42 remaining in the first quarter.

Brees has thrown 35 interceptions in his career, six of which have been returned for touchdowns.

"I was upset about the interception," Tiller said. "He (the receiver) was a young guy (John Standeford) who got held up at the line and just quit on the route. If he wouldn't have quit, it would have been a non-play."

Another blunder came in the fourth quarter at Notre Dame's 45 when center Chucky Okobi snapped the ball over Brees' head on a third-and-10 play that led to a 17-yard loss.

Purdue's defense, on the other hand, played about as well as it could. Amazingly, Notre Dame was held to zero first downs and 12 yards of total offense in the first quarter, yet led 14-0. The Irish finished with 236 total yards of offense (78 rushing, 158 passing), which was the fewest yards they've gained since having 217 yards (123 rushing, 94 passing) in a 10-0 loss to USC in 1998. Notre Dame's 78 rushing yards marked the lowest total since the Irish



Sophomore running back Montrell Lowe led all rushers with 82 yards on 20 carries. He scored the Boilermakers' first touchdown as the Boilers rushed 43 times while attempting only 24 passes.

Tom Campbell

ran for 72 yards in a 37-27 loss to Pittsburgh in 1999.

In Purdue's three nonconference games, the Boilermakers allowed 11 points per game, 257.7 yards, including 90.7 rushing yards.

That defense made things awfully tough on Godsey, a sophomore.

However, Godsey completed 14 passes — one more than Brees managed against Notre Dame and one more than Arnaz Battle did in Notre Dame's first two games.

"It was no secret Purdue was going to

BOILER BITS ARMCHAIR QUARTERBACKING

There were several scenarios that unfolded during the game which prompted the armchair quarterbacks to come out in force.

First, and foremost, why did Travis Dorsch audible to a fake punt with the ball on Purdue's 23-yard line that resulted in an incomplete pass to Vinny Sutherland and led to an Irish field goal in the third quarter.

"It was an audible we coach the (punter) to make if he sees an opening," Coach Joe Tiller explained. "We coach our guy to look outside and if the receiver is uncovered to make an audible check. Notre Dame left the receiver uncovered. The punter made the audible check. The receiver did not hear and ran right into the defensive guy down the field.

"It was a poor job on our part not to make sure he would call that play that deep in our territory. Hopefully, we won't see a repeat of that again."

"I thought Vinny checked to it. I think it might have worked, but the risks are greater than the rewards. We need better communication," Dorsch said.

"That is something we did in practice," Sutherland said. "I don't know if it was my fault or his fault or if together we made a bad play but on fourth-and-23 my thinking was he wasn't going to do it. I'll put in on myself because I am older but miscommunication is all it really was."

Why did Purdue, which was averaged nearly 50 pass attempts and 386.5 yards passing (fourth in the nation) in its first two games, throw the ball just 22 times, completing 13 for 221 yards, against the Irish?

Many media members were critical of the Boilermakers' play.

During WSBT Radio's (South Bend) postgame show, Tom Dennin said, "I thought the game plan for Purdue was terrible. How can a Heisman Trophy candidate be allowed to take the field and only throw the ball 22 times?"

When asked about the pass-to-run ratio, Tiller said, "Is that a surprise for us? Yes. We would like to throw more, but we had success running today. As far as we're concerned we ran the ball too much today."

"I would probably rather see Drew Brees hand the ball off rather than throw it," Notre Dame coach Bob Davie said.

Why Purdue decided to run out the clock at the end of the first half, trailing 17-14 with 1:09 left?

"Normally we would try to do some things," said Tiller, whose team had two time-outs left when the drive started. "The clock was winding down, the wind was in our face and we were backed up in the shadow of our goal posts. We felt like we had come back to get into the game, so why take an unnecessary risk?"

BREES AGAINST THE IRISH

Drew Brees finished his Boilermaker career 1-2 against the Irish as Purdue's starting quarterback. Following is a look at the senior's stats.

1998 — 24-36 (.667), 261 yards, 2 TD, 2 INT

1999 — 24-40 (.600), 317 yards, 1 TD, 1 INT

2000 — 13-22 (.591), 221 yards, 2 TD, 1 INT

Totals — 61-98 (.622), 799 yards, 5 TD, 4 INT

CLIMBING THE CHARTS

Receiver Vinny Sutherland and tight end Tim Stratton are scaling the Purdue record lists for receptions, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns.

Sutherland ranks 12th with 114 receptions, 12th with 1,554 receiving yards and fifth with 16 touchdown receptions.

Stratton ranks 15th with 102 receptions, 23rd with 1,164 receiving yards and tied for ninth with 12 touchdowns.

ENTERING THE ZONE

The Boilermakers have been inside the red zone 17 times this season and scored 14 touchdowns and kicked one field goal.

Last season, Purdue scored 31 touchdowns and kicked 14 field goals in 60 trips inside the opposition's 20-yard line.

NEXT TEST

The Boilermakers return to Ross-Ade Stadium Sept. 23 to begin Big Ten play, hosting Minnesota. The Golden Gophers are 2-1 after a 30-9 win Sept. 16 at Baylor. For more on Glen Mason's Gophers see pages 21-23.

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BREES SMASHING RECORD AFTER RECORD

Following is a list of career records quarterback Drew Brees is chasing or has eclipsed. Against Kent State Sept. 9, Brees broke Purdue's all-time record for completions, dusting Mark Hermann's record of 772. He also became Purdue's all-time leader in total offense, again passing Hermann's record of 9,135.

School Career Record	Record Holder (Record)	Brees Has	Needs To Break
Passing Yards	Mark Hermann (9,946)	9,078	869
Touchdowns	Mark Hermann (71)	71	1
Completions	Drew Brees (787)	787	—
Total Offense	Drew Brees (9,539)	9,539	—

Big Ten Career Record	Record Holder (Record)	Brees Has	Needs To Break
Passing Yards	Iowa's Chuck Long (10,461)	9,078	1,384
Touchdowns	Iowa's Chuck Long (74)	71	4
Completions	Illinois' Jack Trudeau (797)	787	11
Total Offense	Iowa's Chuck Long (10,254)	9,539	716

NCAA Career Record	Record Holder (Record)	Brees Has	Needs To Break
Passing Yards	BYU's Ty Detmer (15,031)	8,857	6,175
Touchdowns	BYU's Ty Detmer (121)	71	51
Completions	Louisville's Chris Redman (1,031)	787	245
Total Offense	BYU's Ty Detmer (14,665)	9,539	5,127

Note: Brees needs 2,222 passing yards, 17 touchdowns, 146 completions and 1,928 total yards to move into fifth-place all-time on the NCAA Records list in each of those categories.

blitz us," Davie said. "That was good coaching. It was kind of a blitz fest."

The Boilermakers tried to get to Godsey when the Irish were faced with third-and-10 from their 37 and trailing 21-20 on the game's final drive. But Godsey, who had thrown an interception on Notre Dame's previous drive, connected with Javin Hunter for a 15-yard gain to get within Boilermaker territory.

The next time Godsey, a converted tight end, went to the air he hooked up with David Givens for an 11-yard gain, which moved the ball to the Purdue 37.

After an offside penalty by Purdue, Notre Dame rushed the ball four times, gaining 11 yards and setting up Setta's kick.

"You've got to give No. 14 credit. It was a limited game plan but he found a way to get us down there and get us a field goal at the end," Davie said.

Asked what Godsey was thinking before that drive, Davie said: "I was afraid to ask him. That was one thing I didn't want to find out."

Godsey was 14-of-25 for 158 yards with one interception. Brees, on the other hand, was 13-of-22 for 221 yards with one interception. For the first time this season, he was sacked (three times) because Purdue's receivers had trouble getting open.

Penalties such as the offside killed Purdue. The Boilermakers were flagged 10 times for a total of 78 yards. Three of those were holding calls (Notre Dame had five penalties for 23 yards, none of which were holding). In its first two games, Purdue had seven penalties for 55 yards.

Perhaps Purdue's worst foul up came late in the third quarter. Travis Dorsch audibled to a fake punt with the ball on Purdue's 23-yard line. It resulted in an incomplete pass to Sutherland and six plays later the Irish kicked a 32-yard field goal to increase their lead to 20-14 with 2:17 left in the quarter.

One bright spot for the Boilermakers was Sutherland, who shined for the second straight game. He had 227 of Purdue's 398 yards of offense. Sutherland made four receptions for 112 yards, including a 19-yard TD catch with 7:21 left in the first half, which cut Purdue's deficit to 17-14. On that play, Sutherland beat Walton, cutting inside where he split cornerback Brock Williams and Tony Driver at the 5 and ran in for the score.

Purdue finished with 398 yards of offense. It entered the game second in the nation in total offense (543.0 yards) and fourth in passing offense (386.5).

Surprisingly, the Boilermakers ran the ball early and often. They gained 177 yards on the ground on 43 carries. Purdue had 77 combined rushing attempts against Central Michigan and Kent State.

Last season, Purdue ran the ball more than it passed just twice. The most lopsided

was against Indiana, when the Boilermakers ran the ball 41 times and went to the air on 24 occasions.

The 22 passes attempted by Brees were his fewest as a starter. His 221 yards passing were the lowest total since he threw for 197 at Indiana last season.

"I think had we thrown more, we might have won," Brees said. "But maybe had we taken out those throwing plays that weren't that good on my part, we could have won as well."

One of the times Purdue went to the air resulted in a 54-yard pass to Sutherland to set up Montrell Lowe's 6-yard touchdown run and make it a 14-7 game with 13:02 remaining in the second quarter.

Lowe was the game's leading ground gainers as he rushed for 82 yards on 20 carries.

After Lowe's touchdown run, Notre Dame got its first first down of the game as tailback Julius Jones rushed for a 12-yard gain. The run was a yard more than the Irish had on the ground in the entire first 15 minutes.

Jones' run started a seven-play, 50-yard drive which ended with a 47-yard field goal by Setta, the longest of his career. Notre Dame led 17-7 with 11:24 left until halftime.

Now the Boilermakers must put the latest gut-wrenching defeat behind them as they start Big Ten play.

"We have a whole season ahead of us and it's going to be filled with ups and downs like this," Light said. "I think we'll be fine heading into our Big Ten season. I've never been around that's as strong as this one is mentally. Our seniors will make sure we pull out a great season." **MM**

Game Stats

Purdue vs. Notre Dame

Rushing

Purdue	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
	Lowe	20	82	4.1	14	1
	Brown	12	49	4.1	14	0
	Brees	7	35	5.0	17	0
	Sutherland	1	14	14.0	14	0
	Morales	1	8	8.0	8	0
	Standeford	1	6	6.0	6	0
	Team	1	-17	-17.0	0	0
	Total	43	177	4.1	17	1

Notre Dame	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
	Jones	18	56	3.1	18	0
	Fisher	6	18	3.0	7	0
	Godsey	7	3	0.4	9	1
	Lopianski	2	1	0.5	1	0
	Howard	1	0	0.0	0	0
	Total	34	78	2.3	18	1

Passing

Purdue	Player	Att	Comp	Yds	Pct	TD	Int
	Brees	22	13	221	59.1	2	1
	Dorsch	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
	Sutherland	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
	Total	24	13	221	54.2	2	1

Notre Dame	Player	Att	Comp	Yds	Pct	TD	Int
	Godsey	25	14	158	56.0	0	1
	Total	25	14	158	56.0	0	1

Receiving

Purdue	Player	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
	Stratton	5	53	10.6	14	0
	Sutherland	4	112	28.0	54	2
	Morales	2	18	9.0	11	0
	Brown	1	25	25.0	25	0
	Dawson	1	13	13.0	13	0
	Total	13	221	17.0	54	2

Notre Dame	Player	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
	Givens	6	86	14.3	46	0
	Jones	2	26	13.0	29	0
	Hunter	1	15	15.0	15	0
	Getherall	1	9	9.0	9	0
	Holloway	1	8	8.0	8	0
	Lopianski	1	7	7.0	7	0
	O'Leary	1	5	5.0	5	0
	Fisher	1	2	2.0	2	0
	Total	14	158	11.3	46	0

Punt Returns

Purdue	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
	Sutherland	1	8	8.0	8	0
	Total	1	8	8.0	8	0

Notre Dame	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
	Getherall	1	33	33.0	33	0
	Earl	1	23	23.0	23	0
	Total	2	56	28.0	33	0

Kickoff Returns

Purdue	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
	Sutherland	5	93	18.6	24	0
	Total	5	93	18.6	24	0

Notre Dame	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
	Jones	1	20	20.0	20	0
	Driver	1	14	14.0	14	0
	Total	2	34	17.0	20	0

Field Goals

Purdue	Player	Att	Good	Made	Miss
	None				
	Notre Dame				
	Setta	4	47	32	38

Punting

Purdue	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long
	Dorsch	4	207	51.8	63
	Team	1	0	0.0	0
	Total	5	244	48.8	63

Notre Dame	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long
	Hildbold	5	244	48.8	63

Scoring Summary

First Quarter
 ND: Godsey 9 run (Setta kick), 12:21 left; Drive: 3 plays, 4 yards, 1:34
 ND: Walton 60 interception return (Setta kick), 3:42 left

Second Quarter
 Purdue: Lowe 6 run (Dorsch kick), 13:02 left; Drive: 5 plays, 80 yards, 1:58
 ND: Setta 47 field goal, 11:24 left; Drive: 7 plays, 50 yards, 1:38
 Purdue: Sutherland 19 pass from Brees (Dorsch kick), 7:21 left; Drive: 7 plays, 73 yards, 4:03

Third Quarter
 ND: Setta 32 field goal, 2:17 left; Drive: 6 plays, 8 yards, 3:32

Team Statistics

Category	Purdue	ND
First downs	20	14
Rushing	10	8
Passing	10	5
Penalty	0	1
Total offensive plays	67	59
Rushing plays	43	34
Net yards rushing	177	78
'Net yards per rush'	4.1	2.3
Passing plays	24	25
Completions	13	14
Nets yards passing	221	158
Net yards per completion	17.0	11.3
Total net yards	398	236
Avg. gain per play	5.9	4.0
Kick returns-yds	5-93	2-34
Punt returns-yds	1-8	2-56
Fumbles-lost	1-1	0-0
Interceptions by-yds	1-2	1-60
Third down conversion	7-14	6-15
Time of possession	32:05	27:55
Sacks by-yds lost	2-16	3-12
Penalties-yds	10-78	5-23

Fourth Quarter
 Purdue: Sutherland 22 pass from Brees (Dorsch kick), 3:39 left; Drive: 12 plays, 77 yards, 4:57
 ND: Setta 38 field goal, 0:00 left; Drive: 13 plays, 59 yards, 3:39

Defensive Leaders

Purdue	Player	Tackles	Solo	Asst	Total	For Loss-Yds	FR-Yds	Int	Pass Def	Sack-Yds
	Doe	4	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Johnson	4	3	7	1-2	0	0	0	0	0
	Phillips	3	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ayodele	3	4	7	2-8	0	0	0	0	1-7
	Mitrione	2	5	7	2-5	0	0	0	0	0
	Turner	3	2	5	2-8	0	0	0	0	1-7
	Gardner	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Clopton	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Schweigert	3	0	3	0	0	1-2	2	0	0
	Dinkins	2	0	2	1-3	0	0	0	0	0
	Terrill	1	1	2	1-9	0	0	0	0	1-9
	Moore	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Vaughan	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Botts	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dorsch	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	31	32	63	9-35	0	1-2	2	2	2-16

Notre Dame (top six)	Player	Tackles	Solo	Asst	Total	For Loss-Yds	FR-Yds	Int	Pass Def	Sack-Yds
	Harrison	6	6	12	0	1-3	0	0	0	0
	Weaver	3	6	9	1-5	0	0	0	0	1-5
	Denman	1	7	8	1-5	0	0	0	0	1-5
	Boiman	5	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Driver	4	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Legree	2	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	38	38	76	5-18	1-3	1-60	3	3	3-12

Irish Win With First-Time QB

Setta, Godsey Emerge As Heroes In Victory

BY BRIAN NEUBERT

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — It's a widespread notion in college football that Notre Dame has God on its side.

On Sept. 16, He — or at least Mother Nature — seemed to be a Fighting Irish fan just prior to Notre Dame's game-winning field goal. Irish kicker Nick Setta booted a 38-yard field goal as time expired, giving Coach Bob Davie's team a 23-21 win in Notre Dame Stadium. The win came thanks in part to a sudden calm in the weather.

"The wind turned on us in the fourth quarter," Davie said, "and I promise you I was on full wind alert before that kick. And when Purdue called that time-out, that wind started swirling, and it was a pretty strong wind. But just before we snapped that ball, that wind calmed down for us. It was an amazing thing."

Setta's kick culminated a series of events Davie had envisioned as his team drove the field in the game's waning minutes. Prior to Notre Dame's final game-winning possession, Purdue had taken its first lead of the game at 21-20 on a 22-yard touchdown reception by Vinny Sutherland.

As the Fighting Irish and starting quarterback Gary Godsey moved the ball down the field, Davie was thinking field goal all along.

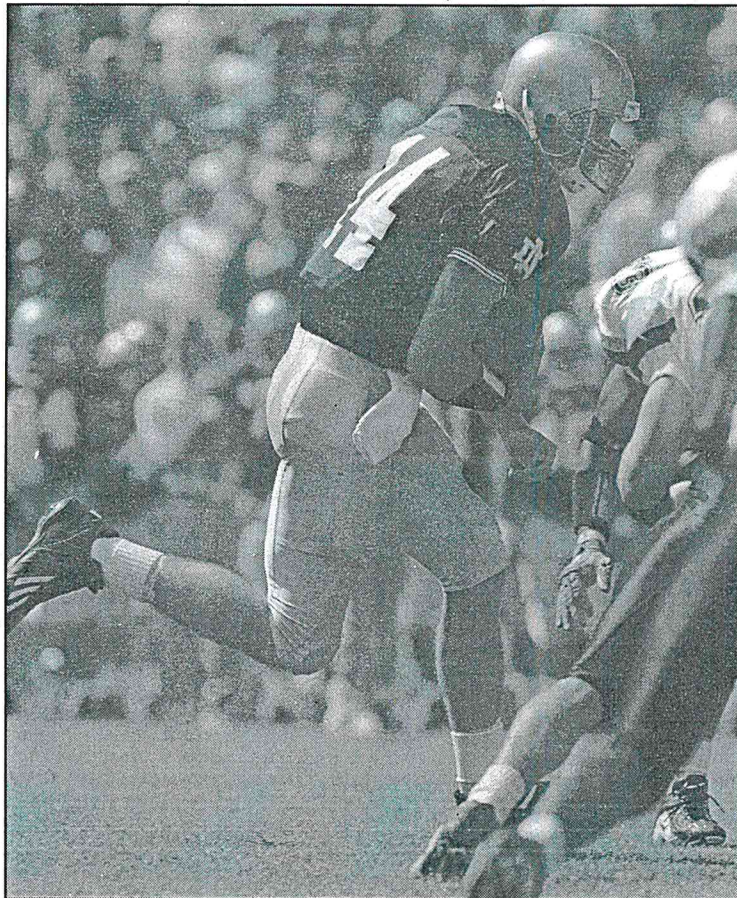
Godsey was seeing his first collegiate action, and Davie wasn't about to put his rookie quarterback in a difficult position.

"We were not going to throw that football," Davie said. "I just wanted to get it down to where we were going to win the game or lose the game on a field goal. I love Gary and what he did today, but our quarterback was not going to be in a position to win or lose the game for us."

Throughout the game's final minutes, Davie couldn't help but let his mind wander back to last season, when his Fighting Irish lost to Purdue 28-23 with the game hanging in the balance until the very last second.

"We thought a lot about last year and there was a lot of conversation about that game," Davie said. "We had it down to one play to win or lose last year, too."

"That was a devastating loss, because last year I felt we were going to win that game. That one just tears your guts out. I've lived with that one, and I'll continue to live with it because it



Irish coach Bob Davie was pleased with quarterback Gary Godsey's effort in his first collegiate start. Godsey slipped past Boilermaker safety Brady Doe to score his team's first touchdown on this 9-yard run with 12:21 left in the first quarter.

Tom Campbell

hurt."

Setta wouldn't have gotten the chance to earn Notre Dame redemption for 1999 had it not been for the late-game heroics of Godsey. The sophomore, who came to Notre Dame as a tight end, completed 3-of-5 passes on Notre Dame's final drive, including a crucial 15-yard pass to Javin Hunter on third-and-10 from the Irish 37.

For the game, Godsey completed 14-of-25 passes for 158 yards, with one interception, all while facing a barrage of Boilermaker blitzes. In the first quarter, the 6-7, 240-pounder scrambled for a 9-yard touchdown.

"By and large, I thought he did a heckuva job for a first-time quarterback out there in that situation," Davie said.

It was a sweet ending to a whirlwind week for Godsey, who was moved to quarterback last year after Eric Chappell left the program last year. He was named the starter after Arnaz Battle broke his wrist against Nebraska Sept. 9.

It was especially fitting that Godsey's debut came against Purdue, who heavily recruited him out of high school. Godsey's sister, Greta, attends Purdue, as does former Jesuit (Tampa, Fla.) High School teammate Chris James, a sophomore wide receiver for the Boilermakers.

Though he operated within a limited Irish game plan and conservative offense, Godsey actually threw the ball more than Purdue counterpart Drew Brees, who routinely passes

50 times per contest.

Brees threw 22 passes, one less than Godsey, while the Boilermakers ran the ball an uncharacteristic 43 times.

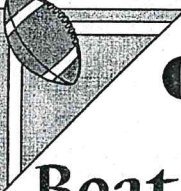
Though Purdue's ground-oriented offense took most observers by surprise, it didn't surprise Irish cornerback Shane Walton, who returned an interception of Brees 60 yards for a first-quarter touchdown.

"We kind of thought they were going to do that this week in practice," Walton said. "So we had a defense set up to stop the run. We were not going to let them run on us."

If the Irish were gearing up to stop the Boilers' running game, it didn't show through much of the game. Purdue ran for 177 yards, averaging 4.1 yards per carry. As effective as the Boilermakers were on the ground, though, the Irish considered it better than the alternative.

"I read in the off-season that Purdue was trying to run the football more, but I didn't really think they would," Davie said. "They made a genuine effort to run the football, and at times ran it very well. It's surprising a little bit, particularly when it was 14-0 and they stayed with it and stayed with it. Give them credit, they know what they're doing and they were in a position to win the ball game."

"As much as Drew Brees handed off, though, you probably would rather have seen him handing it off than throwing it downfield." ■



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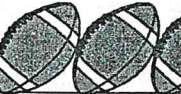
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TOO MANY MISTAKES

Offense Resorts To Ground Game Because Of Tough Irish Secondary

BY KEVIN KECKLER

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Following are offensive coordinator Jim Chaney's thoughts after the Boilermakers' loss Sept. 16 at Notre Dame.

GBI: *This was a tough one to lose, but was it one of the better games you've been a part of?*

Chaney: "I wouldn't say that from my standpoint. We made our share of mistakes that in the long run cost us the ball game."

GBI: *Coach (Joe) Tiller said in his weekly teleconference that Purdue is a throwing school, yet you only passed 22 times. Was that due to their defense or did you want to be somewhat conservative?*

Chaney: "We basically looked at it this way: Look where the drives started and you'll understand why we called what we did. I don't remember getting the ball at the 35-, 40- or 50-yard line very often where you can be wide open. I perceived it as though we started a lot of our drives on the 10- or 20-yard line."

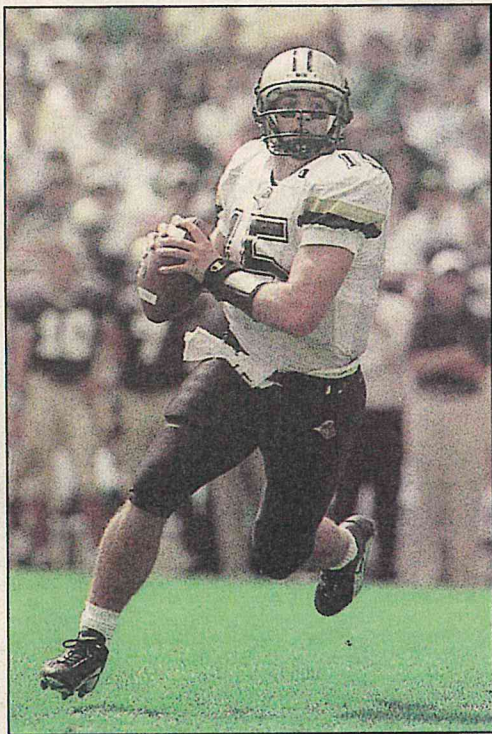
"I did not want to get too wide open and then give them a cheap opportunity to score by us making a mistake. Defensively, we were playing real well against them so if we could make them play on a long field I didn't mind being conservative when we were backed up. I thought sooner or later we'd get ourselves in good field position and could open up."

"As the game progressed, it became more evident that we were going to start deep in our own territory. We realized we had to generate some big plays and make some long drives late in the game and we were able to do that. We kind of wanted to wear them out in the first three quarters and tire them down so we could open it up in the fourth quarter."

"Things played into our hands pretty good in the fourth and we got them right where we wanted them. We emphasized Tim (Stratton) beating the guy he was on and we wanted to wait until late to use him. He beat him, and we marched right down the field and scored."

GBI: *Critics would wonder why you didn't go to the no-back set sooner than that last drive in the fourth quarter. That seemed to be the first time things really looked like the Purdue offense people are used to seeing.*

Chaney: "Critics are allowed to say that, without question. A secondary that has played 75 snaps is much different than one who is just starting the game. We felt like we finally got them where we wanted them in the fourth



Tom Campbell
Quarterback Drew Brees had career lows as a starter in attempts (22) and completions (13) against the Irish. The Boilermakers only passed on 36 percent of their plays.

quarter and the game was still a touchdown contest. I was being a little conservative backed up in our end hoping we'd keep from making a mistake. Finally, we had to open it up and go for it since we never had field position near midfield."

GBI: *Did freshman receiver John Standeford play like a rookie today?*

Chaney: "I didn't sense that he was overwhelmed by the atmosphere or surroundings of this ball game. Sometimes in man-to-man you get shoved around more than we did in a drop-eight defense like we saw last week. To say he played more like a freshman today, I wouldn't agree. It just happened that things didn't go his way today."

GBI: *As many mistakes as were made, were you fortunate to have a chance to win the game?*

Chaney: "Probably, but I don't know for sure until I've watched the tape. I think our kids played their butts off and I'm tickled with the effort they gave us. We did make a lot of mistakes, though."

GBI: *Were the mistakes due to a lack of focus?*

Chaney: "Oh no, it definitely wasn't focus. Our kids were as ready to play this game as you could have asked. We did some silly things though. Sometimes the game gets so darn big that something happens in front of you and you short out for a split second. That's about all it takes in this game against a real good team like Notre Dame."

"I did not want to get too wide open and then give them a cheap opportunity to score by us making a mistake."

— Offensive coordinator Jim Chaney

GBI: *How hard is it to go from a game against Kent State into an environment like this?*

Chaney: "I don't think it's that big an issue at all. You worry about some things but our kids were juiced and ready to play. We just didn't play exceptionally well."

GBI: *Were you impressed with how physical Notre Dame's secondary is?*

Chaney: "They played the way a lot of defenses that have good athletes do. We were just good enough to get ahead of them at the end."

GBI: *Is it Montrell Lowe's turn to be the starter next week after his strong performance against the Irish?*

Chaney: "I don't know, I thought both Sedrick (Brown) and Montrell ran hard and played well. The two of them carried the load for us on the ground and they did a damn

fine job. It's hard to comment on who played better until we review the tape."

GBI: *What is your overall assessment of the offense three games into the season?*

Chaney: "Well, you want to win the stinking game and offensively we didn't score enough points for us to leave here a happy team. Obviously I'm not pleased about that. I'm very pleased with the effort we're getting from the kids and if we continue to play at that level, we're going to have a lot of success this year. I don't know where we're at right now. We ran the ball a lot better today. Sometimes we look good throwing the ball and sometimes we don't. The thing we have to keep in mind, as much as it pains me to say, is Notre Dame has a pretty good defense. The onus falls on the offense for not getting one more point than our opponent." **AW**

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FINAL DRIVE DIMINISHES EFFORT

Defense Put In Tough Situations Throughout Game

BY MATT BRANN

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — At one point midway through the first quarter, Notre Dame had more points than yards of total offense.

That statistic alone tells the story of how well the Boilermaker defense played, but also describes how it still wasn't good enough in a 23-21 loss Sept. 16 to the Fighting Irish.

Purdue's defense held Notre Dame to 236 yards on offense, including just 12 during the early going, as the Boilers trailed 14-0. Coach Joe Tiller's group stifled Notre Dame's fabled ground game to only 78 yards.

But as well as the defensive unit played throughout the game, it allowed the Fighting Irish to get into position to kick the game-winning field goal. And because of that, defensive coordinator Brock Spack, in typical fashion, accepted blame for the loss.

Following the game, *Gold & Black Illustrated* got Spack's thoughts on the Boilermakers' performance.

GBI: As a coach and Purdue alum, how much does a loss in this fashion to Notre Dame hurt?

Spack: "It's heartbreaking. It's happened twice now up here and it's no fun. It really hurts you."

GBI: Heading into that last drive, didn't you feel pretty confident the defense would hold based on how well they had played throughout the game?

Spack: "We felt we could stop them. We missed a couple of opportunities for sacks. We would show blitz and bluff and would blitz. They just made the plays down the end. It came down to the last series and we couldn't stop them. We had to stop them in order to win the game, and we didn't get it done."

GBI: On the third-and-10 play during the final drive you did not blitz and they picked up 15 yards. Were you bluffing the blitz then?

Spack: "Yes. He had been flustered all day, plus they picked up the blitz on the previous third down. We didn't want to give up a big play, so we didn't blitz. Maybe we should have."

GBI: What happened on the third-and-three play from the 30-yard line when they came out of the time-out and gained eight yards on a run up the middle?

Spack: "We blitzed, and we missed a few tackles in the hole. They just made the play."

GBI: Overall you've got to be pleased with how the defense performed.

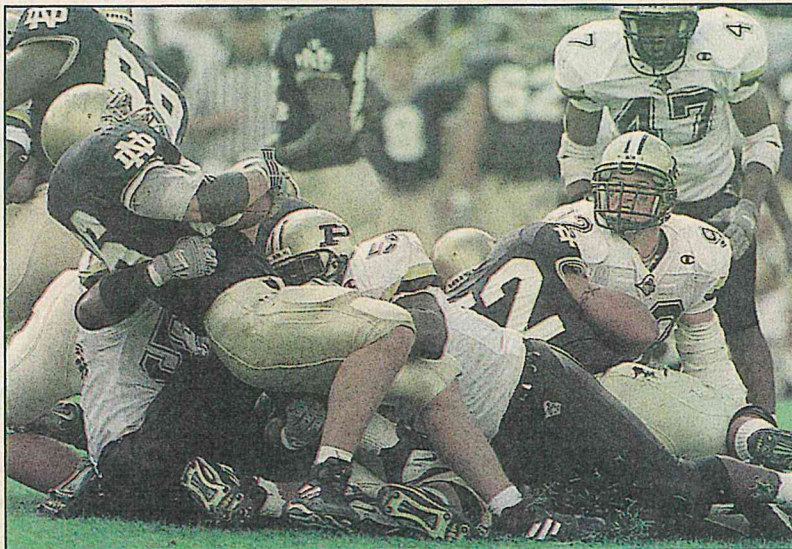
Spack: "They played hard. We looked bad early, but for a young group they hung in there and played hard. They just couldn't make the plays on that last drive."

GBI: In the third quarter your defense was on the field for 10 minutes. Did that take a toll on the players?

Spack: "I don't think so. I thought we were pretty fresh the whole day. It wasn't real hot, so I don't think it was a factor."

GBI: After Notre Dame got the ball on the blocked punt in the first quarter, where was the breakdown on third down when Gary Godsey ran in for a touchdown?

Spack: "We just missed the tackle. We were unblocked, and our guy missed the tackle. That's the way it goes."



Brian Dinkins (50) and Shaun Phillips (53, underneath) stack up Irish fullback Tom Lopienski (40) for a short gain early in the contest. The run defense was stingy, limiting Notre Dame to just 2.3 yards per carry.

GBI: Landon Johnson seemed to be in on a lot of plays and appeared to be more physical. What are your thoughts on his play?

Spack: "I thought he played real well. It looked like he was more physical today. They didn't hurt us running the ball like they thought they were going to."

GBI: In the first half when you blitzed, Notre Dame dumped it off to that side for some big gains a couple of times. Was that in the back of your mind toward the end of the game?

Spack: "Yeah, it was at the end. We didn't want to give up a big play. That was part of our thinking."

GBI: There were times, however, when you blitzed with Akin Ayodele and Johnson and were effective. How did you think the blitz worked out?

Spack: "We blitzed a lot. Not just in the passing game, but we blitzed in running situations as well. It was very effective for us all day. A couple of times they caught us, and we just didn't want to give up a big play at the end. We did blitz a couple of times in the final series, but they blocked us and we didn't get there. We didn't want to bring a bunch of guys and give up something in coverage."

GBI: Jason Loerzel didn't play at all. Was his neck still hurt?

Spack: "No, everybody else was playing good. If they weren't fresh, I would have taken them out."

GBI: You played a lot of true freshmen and redshirt freshmen. This being their first road game and a hostile atmosphere, how did you think they responded?

Spack: "I thought they did good. It was snowballing a little early, and we had to make a few big plays to keep us in the game, and I thought we did that. (Safety) Stu Schweigert made a big interception in the game after dropping one earlier."

GBI: Tackle Craig Terrill had a big sack. What did you think of his performance?

Spack: "Craig has had a good camp. He's a real good player and played awfully well. It's a shame he hurt his elbow in the spring, because

I think that set him back a little in the strength department. But he's going to be a real good player and I was happy with how he played."

GBI: After Purdue fell behind 14-0, did you assume they were just going to run the ball the rest of the game to try and run the clock and limit their mistakes with an inexperienced quarterback playing?

Spack: "I think that was their plan to start. They weren't going to do anything that would beat themselves. They had one long play-action pass, and we just didn't make a play on the ball."

GBI: Jabari Holloway wasn't really a factor at tight end for Notre Dame. I noticed he was limping around a lot, but how much did Ayodele take him out of the game?

Spack: "We covered him up with Akin quite a bit and tried to bang him around a little. I thought Akin had his best game as a linebacker. I think Holloway turned his ankle, but coming in we were real worried about him hurting us. It's good that he didn't make many plays today."

GBI: Before Schweigert's interception late, Notre Dame hadn't had any miscues like Purdue did. Did you feel the defense had to force some kind of turnover to get back in the game?

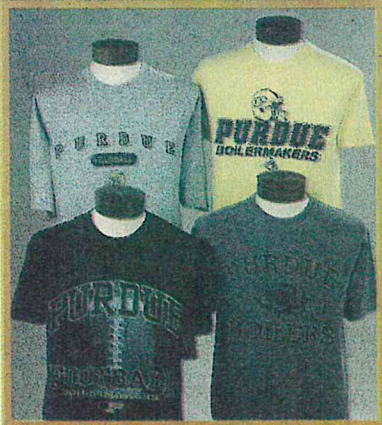
Spack: "We told the defense that (the offense) isn't always going to get first downs and score touchdowns. We told them at halftime that our defense had outplayed their defense. We responded pretty well in the third quarter. We were on the field quite a bit, but we didn't shut them down when we needed to and that was that."

GBI: How does this loss affect your season?

Spack: "We did a lot of good things out there, so we've got to build off those. We played awfully well in certain situations and did a lot of positive things. We've got to emphasize those and try to correct the mistakes. We've just got to move on and get ready for Minnesota. That's what it's all about. There are a lot of disappointments in life, but it's how well you bounce back from them. That's what is great about college sports." *MM*

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