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ROSE BOWL BOWL

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ON THE COVER

Coach Joe Tiller and quarterback Drew Brees celebrate the 41-13 rout of Indiana Nov. 18 in Ross-Ade Stadium and the upcoming trip to the Rose Bowl. It was Tiller's fourth consecutive win over the Hoosiers setting up Boilermakers first trip to Pasadena in 34 years. Cover and 2000 University Spirit Photos by Tom Campbell, 1966 University Spirit photo by Bob Mitchell

BOILERMAKER ASSISTANT COACHES ROSE BOWL BERTH REACTIONS

"This is unbelievable. What you need to do is equate this moment now to where the program was when we got here. That will sum up the magnitude of this situation. I'm very happy for everyone associated with Purdue because it's been a long time coming. We have a very close unit as a staff and a team so this makes things special for us, too. It was a great day." Danny Hope,

"Any time you win a Championship and have a chance to go to the Rose Bowl it's a great day. As you work your way up the coaching ladder you are presented with opportunities to win different conference

championships. At a higher

Offensive Line

conference such as the Big Ten, those wins mean more. I've only had one other chance like this so this is definitely the pinnacle of my coaching career.

"I'm still kind of in shock. I'm happy for our kids and the seniors. I told you back in your GBI Football Yearbook that when this season is over I just wanted to get together with the seniors and reminisce about the four years they've been here with us. This truly is the storybook ending."

Greg Olson, Quarterbacks

"Any time you win a championship it's right up there with the great moments in your career. This is easily in my top five moments. From what we first saw when we arrived here in terms of guy's attitudes to where they are now is like night and day. This has been one of the best rides in my life."

Scott Downing, Running Backs and Special Teams

"This was for everybody who has ever played here; at

least the guys who helped us start this thing in 1997 when we came here. I saw (former quarterback) Billy Dicken in the locker room. Those guys are all excited, and they helped start this. Winning becomes contagious and they really kick-started this thing in '97. I think of the 1980 seniors like Mark Herrmann, Bart Burrell and Pete Quinn. Those

guys had a great run here and came up

Publishing Schedule Mailing Date Issue

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Boilers, Inc. Moving Dec. 4.

Our new address: 8 North 3rd Street, Suite 203 Lafayette, IN 47901 Our phone number will remain the same (765-742-5855).



Coach Joe Tiller and defensive coordinator Brock Spack embrace after the Rose Bowl clinching victory over Indiana Nov. 18.

a Big Ten Championship and sends us to the Rose Bowl. This is a feeling the coaches and players will never forget."

for John Purdue

Club

one game short, so this is for

everybody, including all the

Purdue fans who had to sit

through miserable football

"A guy asked me the

other day, 'Could you

imagine when you were

playing for IU that one

day you could go to the

Rose Bowl as a coach at

being a student-athlete,

Mark Hagen, Defensive Tackles

"We've had some unbelievable

games this year and its been

an emotional roller-coaster.

This is just another game to

but this one is the smeetest

put in line with our other Ws,

Not only does it put another P

on that Bucket, but it clinches

playing and getting an

education."

Purdue?' I said, 'No.' I

was just caught up in

Brock Spack, Defensive

Coordinator, Linebackers

for all those years."

Kevin Sumlin, Receivers

IN THIS ISSUE:

 Only John Purdue Club members will be eligible to request Rose Bowl game tickets

· Tickets will be allocated according to John Purdue Club priority points

· Ticket limits will be imposed, based upon membership level



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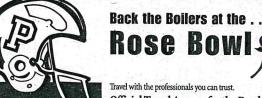
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GOLD , & BLACK (ILLUSTRATED - VOLUME 11, ASSUE 172- PAGE 3.

BOILERMAKERS NEVER LOST SIGHT OF THEIR ROSY DREAMS

Joe Tiller for President.

Why not? There probably won't be one decided by the time Purdue is in Pasadena. For sure, Tiller's four-year plan for steady growth was better than anything we'll probably see from Al Gore or George W. once that mess is settled.

No, there weren't many that took Tiller seriously back in November, 1996. In his first remarks to the media back then, he boldly claimed, "We've won championships at Wyoming and we will win them again."

I just assumed it would be in Tiller's next job and not in the one he had just taken.

I guess dreams have to start some where. And Tiller believed enough of what he was saying to plant seeds of success in his players from day one. The seeds bloomed four years later in the most beautiful sight to Purdue football fans — Roses aplenty in Ross-Ade Stadium on a blustery November night.

Senior quarterback Drew Brees never lost sight of the big picture, either.

His watershed moment came a year ago in November when he decided to forego the NFL draft and play his senior year.

"What the NFL thought of my talent had

nothing to do with my decision to stay," said Brees when asked after the IU game why he returned for his senior year. "I had some unfinished business that I needed to attend to. Now it's finished with exception of winning the Rose Bowl."

I wrote in our preseason Football Yearbook this past July that Drew Brees had to carry Purdue to the Rose Bowl with his

leadership, determination and talent. He did just that.

An important factor for Brees has always been including his teammates in the limelight. There was no dissension on this team because this team was not all about Drew. It was all about winning.

Brees seemed apologetic when hearing that the 60,000 rally towels handed out before the Bucket Game paid tribute to his career.

"There are 16 other seniors that played their last game today," said Brees. "They deserve the credit for the success of this program over the past four seasons as much as anyone."



As this week's cover photo portrays, Brees and Tiller are a match made in Boilermaker heaven.

The coach is the classic underdog whose consistent style turned a program around. Brees, the quarterback none of the big boys wanted, also proved to be the ultimate overachiever who never backed down from what seemed like an impossible chal-

lenge. Neither coach nor player likes attention drawn to them. Each would much rather their actions speak louder than their words.

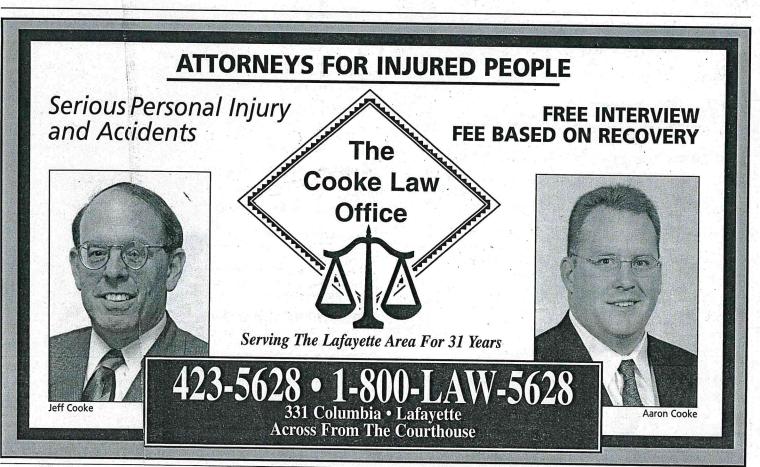
No, Purdue is not sending a great football team to Pasadena. The Boilers will have their hands full with the Pac-10's Washington Huskies. For the first time this season Purdue will be an underdog, as the Huskies have found ways to win, too. They came from behind five times in the fourth quarter this season to pull out victories en route to a 10-1 record. Like Purdue, Washington finished in a three-way tie for the title.

By the time the game is played, Purdue fans will know how to pronounce Husky quarterback Marques Tuiasosopo's name and hopefully we'll know how to spell it. He has some of Antwaan Randle El's elusiveness, but is a far better passer. He is the first Washington quarterback since Sonny Sixkiller 28 years ago to have consecutive 2,000-yard passing seasons. Longtime fans will remember Sixkiller tormenting the Boilermakers with dramatic comeback victories in 1971 and 1972.

For Purdue fans, the ride over the past four years has been amazing. A record four consecutive bowl games in football culminated by a trip to Pasadena is the headliner. Sprinkled in the fun has been a national title in women's hoops and three-straight trips deep into the NCAA Tournament for Gene Keady's team. It's not a bad time to be a Boilermaker fan.

In the world of Big Ten sports, however, there is nothing like the words "We're going to Pasadena." For those of us who thought we would not live long enough to see the Bollermakers play again in the Rose Bowl, the dream is here.

Thanks Joe, Drew and the 2000 Boilermakers for making it possible.



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CALIFORNIA HERE WE COM

Boilers Pound Hoosiers To Earn First Big Ten Championship **Since 1967**

BY DOUG GRIFFITHS

he scenes following No. 17 Purdue's 41-13 win over arch-rival Indiana Nov. 18 in front of a jam-packed Ross-Ade Stadium will be etched in Boilermaker fans' memories for eternity.

Center Chukky Okobi throwing his arms up in the air and letting out a resounding, "Yes," as he was pulled out of the game in the closing seconds. Quarterback Drew Brees hugging Joe Tiller. Tiller getting Gatorade poured over him. Players donning Big Ten Championship baseball caps and T-shirts. Defensive end Akin Ayodele hoisting the Big Ten Championship trophy in the south end zone bleachers. Players with roses in their mouths. And Tiller being presented a dozen roses while accepting the Rose Bowl invitation from one of the bowl's repre-

That's right the wait is over. Purdue is going to the Rose Bowl for the first time since the 1966 season, ending a 34-year drought. It will be the Boilermakers' second appearance ever in the "Granddaddy of Them All.

"It's been a long time coming, but it's been worth the wait," said Tiller, who is 33-15 overall, 22-10 in the Big Ten in four seasons at Purdue, and for the first time in Purdue football history leading the Boilermakers to their fourth straight bowl game. "We always say we have to sniff the roses as we're going through life and Purdue has a chance to do that now."

'The 1967 Rose Bowl was definitely one to remember," said Brees, who was born in 1979 and, along with 16 other seniors, played his final game in Ross-Ade. "Thirty-four years later we do it for our team, coaches, fans and all those people who have been waiting for it and all



Tom Campbell Freshman safety Stuart Schweigert intercepts his first of two passes of the game in third quarter action. Moments after the interception, Schweigert is embarrassed after casually dropping the ball in the end zone. Luckily, for the Boilermakers, redshirt freshman linebacker Landon Johnson Tom Campbell Landon Johnson pounced on the loose ball for a touchback.

those people who played in that '67 Rose Bowl. It's about time we're back

"It doesn't get any better than this," said defensive tackles coach Mark Hagen, who was a standout linebacker at Indiana from 1987-91. "What could top this? The next best thing to being in a uniform and playing today is coaching these guys. It hasn't even sunk in yet. This is an unbelievable feeling. I'm thrilled to death just to be a part of this."

After the final seconds ticked off the game clock, thousands of the 69,104 fans in attendance, who ignored

pleas from the public address announcer, spilled out onto the Ross-Ade Stadium gridiron. Some of those on the field included former Boilermakers Leroy Keyes, Fred Strickland, Ray Wallace, Chukie Nwokorie and Chris Daniels.

With fans trying in vain to bring both goal posts down (both were greased to prevent them from tumbling to the ground) and the masses on the field, the crowd was addressed by Brees, among others.

This is by far the most incredible experi-

ence of ry life," he said over the public address system. And you fans definitely have been a major prt of this Rose Bowl journey.

'Ca you smell it? We're going to the Rose Bowl, bby."

"Tis is, by far, the greatest sight I have ever, eer, ever seen," defensive end Akin Ayodel told the crowd.

Tibr told the crowd, which was deafening throughut and waved white towels saluting ees, Our players are my heroes."

Prdue (8-3, 6-2), 21-3 at home over the last



Sophomore running back Montrell Lowe had a career day with 208 yards and four touchdowns. Getting in the end zone had to be particular-

ly pleasing for Lowe as he quadrupled his season scoring output in one game against the Hoosiers. He was particularly impressive on a drive late it the third quarter as he carried the ball 10 times for 72 yards and the eventual touchdown. Lowe's yardage wouldn't have been piled up, however, without the stellar play of the offensive line. This senior-laden group paved huge holes up the middle and provided plenty of room to run.



Forget about trying to come up with something negative following the triumphant day Ross-Ade Stadium. Everything came up roses.

We'd like to play the Hoosiers four or five times a year. All



kidding aside, what else could you ask for? The offense was

this play in the first quarter. He became one of only six Boilers to have four touch-downs in a game. unstoppable both on the ground and through the air. The defense made plenty of big plays and the kicking game performed admirably in miserable weather conditions.

While winning the Old Oaken Bucket for the fourth consecutive year, a first Big Ten Championship in 33 years and earning a trip to the Rose Bowl for the first time since 1967 are all impressive, it appears Coach Joe Tiller and Co. aren't done yet. Tiller talked after the game of taking this program to the next level, particularly in recruiting. And if this Rose Bowl berth doesn't help the Boilermakers make the ascent to that next level in that area, nothing will.



Tom Campbell
Sophomore running back
Montrell Lowe scores the first
of his four touchdowns on

Freshman safety Stuart Schweigert and rookie wide receiver John Standeford have been critical performers for the Purdue defense and offense, respectively. Both proved they can be big-time producers in the Big Ten in their first year and each has an extremely bright future. Schweigert added two interceptions against the Hoosiers, bringing his season total to five - just two off the school record. Standeford reeled in seven catches to finish with 62 on the regular

four seasons, claimed its first league title since 1967 by winning five of its last six games. The Boilermakers shared the 2000 Big Ten Championship with Northwestern and Michigan.

"When you're a champion of your league as a coach that's what it's all about. I'm very proud of this championship," offensive coordinator Jim Chaney said.

"This is something every coach wants to be a part of," said receivers coach Kevin Sumlin, who played linebacker for the Boilermakers from 1983-86. "Certainly if you've played or coached in the Big Ten, to go to the Rose Bowl is the ultimate. This is as big as it gets."

"I just looked up at the picture of the roses on the scoreboard and all the fans around. It's awesome. It's something you work for as a player and a coach. It's even better when it's your alma mater. It couldn't be any better." The 2000 season reached full bloom thanks to rallies against Michigan and Ohio State, a thrilling overtime victory at Wisconsin and a convincing road win against Northwestern.

Indiana's season, on the other hand, was filled with near misses (four losses by 20 points). IU lost its sixth straight road game dating back to last season, finishing its season a disappointing 3-8, 2-6 (last-place tie with Michigan State and Illinois in the Big Ten).

The Hoosiers tried to regain possession of the Old Oaken Bucket for the first time since 1996, but only had the ball twice with chances to take the lead and those came in the first half.

The Boilermakers won the Old Oaken Bucket for the fourth time in a row in a series that has become one-sided since Tiller arrived in West Lafayette. Those four wins have come by an average of 44.8-12.8 points (179-51).

Purdue dominated Indiana, scoring six

touchdowns on its 10 possessions. The Bollermakers only punted twice (on their first and last possessions which were the only times they didn't get into Hoosier territory). The other two drives ended deep in IU territory — at the 28 (an interception) and the 9 (a fumble).

Purdue led 20-7 at half-time. Receiver Vinny Sutherland returned the second-half kickoff 35 yards to Indiana's 39. The Boilermakers looked like they would increase their lead, but a bad exchange between Okobi and Brees on the 9 resulted in a fumble, which the Hoosiers recovered.

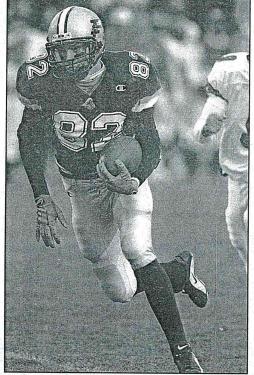
However, the Purdue defense stepped up big, forcing Indiana to go three-and-out after the turnover.

The Boilermakers' second possession of the third quarter started at the Hoosier 47. Purdue's fourth scoring drive of the day was highlighted by two pass completions to freshman receiver John Standeford, who gained 31 yards during the drive. Running back Montrell Lowe scored off left tackle from six yards out to make it 27-7 with 10:32 remaining in the third quarter.

Although many expected Purdue to get it done through the air, it was the running

game, led by Lowe, who flourished. The sophomore gained a career-high 208 yards rushing on 38 carries and scored four touchdowns on runs of 12, 6, 8 and 1 yards. It was the most a Purdue back has gained since Tiller arrived in West Lafayette. Lowe's 208 yards rank ninth-best in school history.

"Holy Cow, they couldn't stop him," tight



Tom Campbell Freshman receiver John Standeford enjoyed his best game in several weeks, catching a game-high seven passes for 82 yards.

al for next year, but I don't care."

end Tim Stratton said. "We ran the same play over and over, and I guess IU couldn't figure it out. I'm sure that will be bulletin board materi-

. "Right now, I'm not feeling my personal achievements, I'm feeling the team's achievements," Lowe said. "I'm overwhelmed. When that clock ticked down, we knew we were a

ROSE BOWL INFORMATION

When: Jan. 1, 2001

Where: Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif. (101,219 capacity)

Kickoff: 4:30 p.m. (West Lafayette time); 1:30 p.m. (Pasadena time)

Television: ABC

Tickets: \$125 each; most distributed to the respective schools (see page 4 for more details) but a limited number will on sale after 11 a.m. Dec. 12 through TicketMaster and can be purchased (213) 365-3550.

Rose Parade: Jan. 1, 2001 11 a.m. (West Lafayette time); 8 a.m. (Pasadena time)

SECOND TRIP TO ROSE BOWL IN THREE YEARS

After his first start as a Bollermaker against USC, quarterback Drew Brees and his Bollermaker team visited the Rose Bowl in 1998. They walked on the field and toured the locker rooms and press box.

"We walked on that field and looked around and

"We walked on that field and looked around and thought, 'What would it feel like to play in the Rose Bowl. This is incredible,' Brees said. "When you stand on the outside it has a sign that says Rose Bowl on the side of the stadium and has a picture of a rose right next to those words.

"When you walk into the stadium it's this huge bowl with 100,000 seats. It was kind of frustrating at the time because we had just lost to USC and I was thinking, 'That was my first start. I hope I can do something while I'm here.'"



Tom Campbel Jason Loerzel, Drew Brees, Tim Stratton, Matt Mitrione and Ben Smith at the Rose Bowl. Aug. 31, 1998

"When we went to play SC in '98, we had a photo taken of them in front of the Rose Bowl," Coach Joe Tiller said. "We put that up to try to motivate them to get there. I thought then what a gorgeous facility it is and how great it would be if we could find a way to get there because it's a special bowl. I don't know if I understand all this stuff about significance right now. I'm still pretty numb."

SENIOR QBS IN REGULAR-SEASON FINALES

Below is a look at how some of Purdue's great quarterbacks did in their final regular-

Player	Date	Statistics	Result
Bob Griese	Nov. 19, 1966	255 yards passing, 3 TDs	W. 51-6
Mike Phipps	Nov. 22, 1969	238 yards passing (11-of-29), 4 TDs	W. 44-21
Mark Herrmann	Nov. 22, 1980	323 yards passing (19-of-23), 1 TD	W. 24-23
Scott Campbell	Nov. 19, 1983	102 yards passing (9-of-16), 1 TD	W. 31-30
Jim Everett	Nov. 23, 1985	293 yards passing (22-of-39), 2 TDs	W. 34-21
Drew Brees	Nov. 18, 2000	216 yards passing (20-of-29), 1 TD	W. 41-13

DROUGHT ENDS

Purdue ended its 34-year drought without a Rose Bowl appearance with its win over Indiana. Below are the teams still waiting for a return trip to California.

Bowl Appearance Drought
62 39 Years
68 33 Years
84 17 Years
88 12 Years
7

NEXT TEST

The Bollermakers will likely face Pac-10 co-champions No. 4 Washington, 10-1 overall, 7-1 in the Pac-10, in the 87th Rose Bowl Jan. 1, 2001. The Huskies made it to Pasadena by virtue of their 51-3 win Nov. 18 at Washington State and thanks to Oregon State beating Oregon 23-13. Washington still has a slim chance to play in the national championship game in the Orange Bowl. If that happens, Purdue's Rose Bowl opponent will be Oregon State.

Gold & Black Illustrated's Rose Bowl Preview issue will be mailed Dec. 14.



team that will never be forgotten."

With wind chills in the teens due to winds gusting to 23 miles per hour, conditions to throw the ball weren't exactly ideal.

"Coming into the game, our thoughts were to throw the football more than run." Tiller said. 'We ran the ball more effectively than we really thought we'd be able to. I thought we could have thrown the ball more. What happened was once we got the lead and got into the second half, and the weather being what it was, we started thinking about clock management. As a result, we kind of abandoned the pass a little bit'

Fortunately for the Boilermakers, their running game was more than effective. Purdue rolled up 510 yards of total offense, 294 (the best single-game performance under Tiller) via the ground, averaging 5.9 yards per carry.
Purdue's last 23 plays from scrimmage

were rushes, including eight straight on a thirdquarter 80-yard drive that gave it a 34-7 lead. During that series, Lowe carried 10 times for 72 yards, including an eight-yard scamper into the

"I call him, 'Sweet Feet,' because he makes people miss," Brees said. "He's got those quick 'Sweet Feet' He definitely had one of his best games today.

"Montrell has added some great balance to this team. You look at the guys who show up in the big games and Montrell Lowe is always one of them.

In wins over Michigan and Northwestern, Lowe gained 300 yards on 48 rushes.

The Boilermakers' final scoring drive went 66 yards in nine carries.

"Lowe had the type of day we needed him to have," Tiller said. "Part of that was Montrell and part was the offensive line. The offensive line, in the running game, had their best game. They did a good job of knocking people down."

Not only was the offensive line great in opening holes, but once again they did a stellar job in protecting Brees, who was 20-of-29 passing for 216 yards, threw a touchdown and an interception and wasn't sacked. In 489 pass attempts, the offensive line has allowed just eight sacks this season.

'The offensive line definitely doesn't get enough credit," said Brees, who threw just eight passes in the second half. "If you want to look at a real strong point on this offense, it's not me, Montrell or Vinny (Sutherland), it's the offensive line. Our heart and soul is our offensive

"The offensive line played as good today as they have all year," line coach Danny Hope said. "They had great determination and terrific focus. I don't have to motivate that bunch very much because it's a group of seniors who have been through almost everything imaginable. It was nice to keep running the ball for seven yards a pop. You don't have to worry about much else when you're doing that."

Much of the offensive success came on third down. Purdue, ranked No. 1 in the nation in third-down efficiency, converted 11 of 13, including 11 in a row.

As much ink as the offense gets, the championship was won thanks to improved defensive play.

It limited IU quarterback Antwaan Randle El to 112 yards rushing on 20 carries (62 yards on 11 tries in the first half. He was just 13-of-28 passing for 123 yards (26 in the opening 30 minutes), a touchdown and was intercepted three times.

Other than Randle El, no Hoosier had more than 53 yards rushing. IU entered the game No. 1 in the Big Ten in rushing offense (fifth nationally), averaging 272.5 yards per game. IU, however, finished with 205 yards.

"In every championship season, the defense is going to be the key," defensive tackle Matt Mitrione said. "Offense wins games, and defense wins championships. We know that, and we're cool with that. Our young kids learned so much. They improved a lot from the beginning to the end.

Purdue's defense allowed 328 total yards, 68 of those came on a fourth-quarter drive when most of the starters were on the sideline.

"I felt if we could have some success defensively we'd be OK, because I knew we could move the football on them," Tiller said. "I thought our defense ran well and did some very positive things in terms of containing Randle El. Our thoughts were not on stopping him, but containing him the best we could and trying to force him into a passing game. Certainly their forte is running, not passing, and that's how it unfolded."

Indiana entered the game with one of the nation's worst defenses (110th in total defense allowing 452 yards per game). Its pass defense was 113th (276.4), while permitting 175.6 yards on the ground (80th).

Lowe started the scoring with a 12-yard run, but Travis Dorsch missed the point after so Purdue led 6-0 with 5:22 left in the first quarter.

The lead grew to 13-0 when Brees connected with Stratton for a 13-yard touchdown with 54 seconds remaining in the opening 15 minutes. It was Stratton's first TD catch since the season opener.

Early in the second quarter, IU got to within 13-7 after Randle El hooked up with receiver Versie Gaddis for a 10-yard scoring pass play.

When Brees blew in from two yards out, Purdue's lead grew to 20-7 with less than two minutes left until halftime.

All hopes of an Indiana upset were dashed when safety Stuart Schweigert intercepted a Randle El pass in the end zone late in the third quarter and Purdue leading 27-7. After making the nifty one-handed interception, Schweigert began running laterally and dropped the ball before downing it. The ball was live and would've been an IU touchdown had it recovered it, but linebacker Landon Johnson pounced on it.

"The Indiana player was asking for (pass) interference so I was looking around to see if interference was called," Schweigert said. "I saw that there wasn't, wasn't thinking and just dropped the ball. I guess I was thinking the official blew the whistle and the play was over. I made a dumb mistake."

"I saw him running with it and he had never downed it," said Johnson, who had a game-high 11 tackles and is a Lubbock, Texas, native. "I was saying, 'Down it. Down it.' I guess he got a little too excited. He dropped the ball and I fell on it.'

One thing is for certain, however, Johnson is excited to be going to the Rose Bowl.

"I grew up around the Cotton Bowl, but Big Ten football is a big deal even down in Texas. I've got a lot of people watching me. Going to the Rose Bowl is real special."

Like Johnson, Brees is a Texas native, who admitted being a Southwest Conference fan (now the Big 12) growing up and dreaming about playing in the Cotton Bowl. But he always knew the significance of playing in the Rose Bowl.

When you think about tradition, legacy, great teams and great players, a lot of them have walked through those gates at the Rose Bowl," Brees said. "When you think of the ultimate bowl, I think what comes to a lot of people's minds is the Rose Bowl.

Team Statistics

"It's a dream come true."

Game Stats Purdue vs. Indiana

Rushing Purdue Indiana

Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Lona	TD	10.
Lowe	38	208	5.5	16	4	
Brees	10	. 85	8.5	19	1	
Brown	1	2	2.0	2	0	
Ennis	1	-1	-1.0	0	0	
Total	50	294	5.9	19	5	
Indiana	1			200,00		5
Randle El	20	112	5.6	18	0	
Lewis	8	53	6.6	31	0 .	
Hogan	5	34	6.8	15	0	
Williams	3	6	2.0	5	1	
Total	36	205	5.7	31	1	
		Des	cin	61		

		Pas	SIM	9		
Purdue	*	100	Y. 1		- V (F)	St. *C 1
Player	Att	Comp	Yds	Pct	TD	Int
Brees	29	20	216	69.0	. 1	1
Total	29	20	216	69.0	1	1
Indiana						
Randle El	28	13	123	46.4	-1	3
Total	28	13	123	46.4	1	3

Receiving

		20.44				
Purdue	- 5	£. Q£	. S			8
Player	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD	
Standeford	7	82	11.7	21	0	
Sutherland	6	44	7.3	14	0	
Stratton	4	47	11.8	13	1	
Winston	1	29	29.0	29	0	
Morales	1	13	13.0	13	0	
Brees	1	1	1.0	1	0	
Total	20	216	10.8	29	1	
Indiana		100000	Schrod	,,,,,,,	-	1:
Williams	5	17	3.4	9	0	
Dorsey	2	28	14.0	16	0	
Hogan	2	6	3.0	6	0	
Graham	1	39	39.0	39	0	
Dielman	1	.14	14.0	14	0	
Gaddis	1	10	10.0	10	1	
Johnson	1	9	9.0	9	0	
Total	13	123	9.5	39	1	

Purdue	Pu	mt	Ret	urns		
Player Sutherland Indiana	Att 1	Yds 16	Avg 16.0	Long 16	TD 0	
Graham	1	1	1.0	1	0	
	2.000		_			

	Kic	koff	Re			
Purdue		177	4			
Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	Td	
Sutherland	1	35	35.0	35	0	
Clopton	. 1	26	26.0	26	0	
Rowe	1	-5	-5.0	0	0	
Indiana	S- 10 (2)	5.0	200 7			1 30
Graham	3	81	27.0	33	0	
Hogan	2	15	7.5	9	0	
Carter.	1	24	24.0	24	0	
Cartor,		24	24.0		U	

Field Goals

Purdue		Pui	ntin	g	
Player Kurz Indiana	Att 2	Yds 62	Avg 31.0	Long 31	Section 1
Hamre Randle Fl	3	95 37	31.7 37.0	35 37	

Scoring Summary

First Quarter Purdue: Lowe 12 run (kick failed) 5:22 left; Drive: 6 plays, 74 Purdue: Stratton 13 pass from Brees (Dorsch kick) 0:54 left; Drive: 8 plays, 53 yards, 2:45

Second Quarter

Indiana: Gaddis 10 pass from Randle El (Pavne kick) 13:55 left; Drive: 6 plays, 61 yards, 1:59

Purdue: Brees 2 run (Dorsch kick) 1:55 left; Drive: 12 plays, 65 vards, 4:12

Third Quarter

Purdue: Lowe 6 run (Dorsch kick) 10:32 left; Drive: 7 plays, 47 yards, 2:08 Purdue: Lowe 8 run (Dorsch kick) 2:45 left: Drive: 11 plays. 80 vards, 5:58

32
18
13
1
79
50
294
5.9
29
20
216
10.8
510
6.5
3-56
1-16
2-1
3-0
1-13
3:37
0-0
6-46

Fourth Quarter Indiana: Williams 5 run (run failed) 14:50 left; Drivè: 7 plays, 68 yards, 2:55 Purdue: Lowe 1 run (Dorsch kick) 9:52 left: Drive: 9 plays.

urdue		Tackles				第7条题		THE PARTY OF
ayer	Solo	Asst	Total	For Loss-Yds	FR-Yds	Int	Pass Def	Sack-Yds
hnson	4	7	11	0	0	0	2	0
hillips	5	3	8	2-6	0	0	1	0
itrione	3	4	7	0	0	0	0	0
irner	3	3	6	0	0	0	1	0
oodyard	3	3	6	0	0	0	1	0
chweigert .	4	1	5	0	0	2-0	3	0
dom	2 2	3 3	5	0	0	0	0	0
rodele			5	2-6	1-0	0	0	0
ardner	2	3	5	1-3	0	0	0	0
inkins	1	2	3	. 0	0	0	0	0
perzel	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
errill	2	. 0	2	0	0	0	1	0
chaub	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
opton	_ 1 _	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
oshur	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
am	1 -	0	1	0	0	0	D	0
outouvides	0	1	1	0	0	0	. 0	. 0
ne e	0	. 0	0	0	0	1-0	1	0
ital idiana (to	36 p five)	34	70	5-15	1-0	3-0	10	0
mith	6	3	9	1-1	0	0	0	. 0
oyd	3	6	9	1-1	0	0	0	0
nderson	4	4	8	1-1	0	0	0	0
'allace	- 5	1	6	0	0	1-0	ALC 15 1	0
arnett	4	the set	5	0	0	0	0	0
otal	46	30	76	4-4	1-0	1-0	3	0

VIEW FROM THE INDIANA LOCKER ROOM

Hoosiers Dominated By Boilers

BY BRIAN NEUBERT

n Indiana's eyes, the Boilermakers played like champions Nov. 18.

"All the credit goes to Purdue," Hoosier linebacker Justin Smith said. "They are deserving champions, deserving of representing our league in the Rose Bowl.'

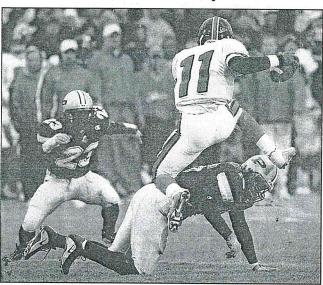
Playing against a heavily-favored Purdue team looking to clinch a Big Ten Championship on its home field in front of an electric crowd of 69,104 hungry for a trip to the Rose Bowl, the Hoosiers entered a true hornet's nest. In the end, Indiana never really had a chance, as it dropped its fourth consecutive Old Bucket game to Oaken Purdue, 41-13.

Coach Cam Cameron concurred with Smith.

"You have to give a lot of credit to Joe Tiller and his staff, and congratulate them," Cameron said. "Obviously, it's an honor for them to be able

to represent our conference in the Rose Bowl. That's what all of us are trying to do, and you have to take your hat off to the job they've done.

While the Hoosiers were dominated on defense - allowing 510 total yards - IU found some success offensively, though the Hoosiers also found ways to stall their own drives.



Some thought Indiana's 41-13 loss at Purdue Nov. 18 may have been Antwaan Randle El's final game in a Hoosier uniform. The junior quarter-back, however, vows to return to Bloomington for his senior season.

Quarterback Antwaan Randle El turned the ball over three times deep in Purdue territory, losing a fumble and throwing interceptions in the end zone and at the Boiler 1-yard line, respectively. The turnovers cost IU any chance it may have had at pulling what would have been a monumental upset.

"We moved the football, but we turned it over three times inside the 30,' Cameron said. "And the only chance we had of making this a ball game was not doing that."

Defensively, Hoosiers brought one of the nation's worst pass defenses into the game, but it was Purdue's ground attack that did in the Cream and Crimson. The Boilermakers rushed for nearly 300:yards.

Throughout the game, Purdue's offensive line dominated the line of scrimmage, opening gaping holes for running back Montrell Lowe.

"They have one of the best, if not the best, offensive lines in the league, Cameron said of Purdue. "They're seniors up there, across the board, and they just pounded us. And Lowe's a good back. Ironically, it came down to between us and them in recruiting him. We knew he was a good back, but they

just blocked us so well."

Purdue's running game was so dominant that the Boilermakers ended the game with an uncharacteristic 23 consecutive running plays, running the same plays over and over.

They ran three (running) plays all game," Cameron said. "They ran inside zones to the left and right and quarterback keeps. They've had one of the best offensive lines for the past two or three years."

The loss sends Indiana into an off-season that will be filled with question marks, most notably regarding the status of Cameron and Randle El. Both have been rumored to be on their way out of Bloomington after the season.

Cameron, coming off his fourth losing season with the Hoosiers, was rumored to be looking into taking a job with the NFL's Detroit Lions and former Michigan colleague Gary Moeller, who replaced Bobby Ross as head coach a few weeks ago.

Following the loss to Purdue, Cameron vehemently denied the rumors.

"Both my feet are planted at Indiana University," Cameron said. "We've got a job to get done and we're not as close as we need to be to getting it done. I don't know where that stuff comes from.

"It's crazy. I just think that stuff has to be a joke. I think somebody is out there on the Internet making that stuff up."

Randle El, meanwhile, has been thought to be looking into entering the NFL draft, or on the verge of academic ineligibility. An academic non-qualifier as a freshman in 1997, Randle El must graduate from Indiana in August in order to gain eligibility for his fifth year at IU.

"I'm on schedule to graduate and everything, so I'm fine from that standpoint," Randle El said. "I really haven't thought a lot about not coming back, basically because I want to come back here.

Randle El wants to return to school for many of the same reasons Purdue counterpart Drew Brees did this year. He wants to turn IU into a winner.

"It's been tough," said Randle El, who is 11-22 as IU's starting quarterback. "I'm not a loser, and I'm not going to accept it. I still want to get some guys going and going hard, because that's the only thing I know."

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GAME VIEW WITH OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR JIM CHANEY

Running Game Dominates

Offensive Line Helps Lowe To Top 200 Yards

BY KEVIN KECKLER

ffensive coordinator Jim Chaney was almost speechless following the Nov. 18 Old Oaken Bucket win over Indiana. OK, maybe not speechless, but it was tough for Chaney to put into words how much the victory meant.

GBI: Is this the greatest day in your coaching career?

Chaney: "Winning a football game to go to the Rose Bowl... come on, man. This is my 17th year of Division I-A coaching and without question this is the most thrilling moment. This and the Alamo Bowl win over Kansas State are two of the greatest feelings I've ever had. We've had some exciting victories since we arrived at Purdue, but none have been more meaningful. For a coach to have an opportunity to go coach in the Rose Bowl, I think I can speak for all of us in saying you don't get an opportunity like this very often."

GBI: After having so many close games of late, you obviously will use the blowout as an excuse for your boring play calls, right?

Chaney: "There was no question what I was going to do today. There was never a doubt what we were going to do in that second half. We were going to run inside to the left and inside to the right until the final horn sounded. We were going to keep running the ball until they stopped us and they never did. It was a simple game plan."

GBI: You ran the ball on 25 consecutive snaps. Is that hard to believe?

Chaney: "Their defense never got any pressure on Drew so we had time to throw the ball if we wanted. But we were so effective running the ball that we needed to keep going to it. If we hadn't turned the ball over twice in the

Quarterback Drew Brees, who had the second best rushing performance of his career with 85 yards, is escorted down the field by guard Gene Mruczkowski. The offensive line abused Indiana's defensive front. allowing Purdue to run the ball at will throughout the second half.

"If we hadn't turned the ball over twice in the red zone, the score would have been much worse than it was."

- Offensive coordinator Jim Chaney

red zone the score would have been much worse than it was."

GBI: It was a career day for Montrell Lowe.

Chaney: "Montrell played a wonderful game and he will be the first to admit the O-line was awesome, too. They were bulldozing IU out of the middle and hitting them helmet-on-helmet. It was a picture perfect day for our line. We couldn't have blocked a few of those plays any better if we tried 100 times. Montrell, to his credit, did a nice job being disciplined and holding on to the football. We did what we needed to do."

GBI: Lowe scored four touchdowns today, which is incredible con-

sidering he had just twice in the first 10 games. Did you purposely make sure he had the ball inside the 10 to get him some scores?

Chaney: "We never, ever contemplated anything like that. We were going to run the same play regardless of who was in the game. They were having problems stopping this one play we run and we ran it basically the entire second half."

GBI: Have you ever had a running back carry the ball 10 times in one drive and get over 70 yards?

Chaney: "Sure, tons of times. No, I'm just joking. We've had some success in our fourminute offense trying to-use the clock and pound a team. Have we this kind of success? No. We were doing so well that I was thinking, 'I could throw, I could bootleg, I could do a lot of things, but why?" We were getting seven yards every time we ran that play so there was no reason to throw the ball and risk stopping the clock.

"At no time did we go into a mode of playing not to lose. We weren't just trying to milk the clock, we were trying to score as many points as we could."

GBI: You won't have the luxury of seeing this senior-laden offensive line next fall. How much will you miss them, particularly when you watch them put on a performance like today's?

Chaney: "Those kids are special players and we're going to miss them. Their leadership, strength, physical toughness are all amazing and they are terrific players. (Offensive line coach) Danny Hope does a wonderful job with those kids of getting them ready to play each Saturday. They are always ready to play and that's usually the sign of a good position coach. Those seniors have played their butts off all year long."

GBI: What happened on the fumbled snap deep in Indiana territory?

Chaney: "I don't know what the hell we were doing. We were trying to get them to jump offsides, and they didn't. When Drew called the second hike a guy looked like he jumped offsides but he wasn't ready to receive the football. The timing got screwed up and in retrospect I wished I hadn't called it. We were just trying to get a cheap first down and it didn't work. We should have just handed the ball off and moved on."

GBI: Even though Drew Brees didn't have gaudy passing statistics, he played a near-flawless game while controlling the offense.

Chaney: "He did. He controlled the entire football game and did what we wanted him to do. He made one mistake trying to throw back across his body there in the second quarter (throwing an interception in the end zone), but other than that I have no complaints with his game."

GBI: What was the biggest difference in the way Indiana's defense came at you this year as opposed to last year?

Chaney: "To me, it was more about our approach to the game. Our mental approach to the game (last year) wasn't what it was this year. I would say this had less to do with the Hoosiers and more to do with the Boilermakers being ready to play today. We weren't as crisp as we should have been last year. When they drop eight guys, it's hard to throw the underneath ball so we tried not to do too much of that. We threw downfield a little more and the plan worked pretty well."

GBI: What the coaching staff has done in four years is nothing short of amazing. Do you recall what Coach Joe Tiller said to you as a staff when you were given the opportunity to come to Purdue, and are you surprised you've gotten to this point so quickly?

Chaney: "I don't believe any of us talked about being where we are today back then. Joe told us he wanted us to come with him. He wanted us to work our butts off, recruit well and do things the way we did them at Wyoming rather than reinvent the wheel. We all believe in Joe Tiller. He's a damn fine leader and we respected him enough to follow him to Purdue University.

'We've been able to be successful with our formula. That's why Joe is a good football coach. I think you're always surprised when you have a chance to go to the Rose Bowl. You have to have a lot of balls bounce your way, have a lot of luck and stay injuryfree. We've had all of that this year. I'm surprised that we just won a Big Ten Championship because as a coach you're always super-critical of the talent level you're playing with and your personal play calling, etc. I always wish we were bigger, faster and stronger but evidently we were because we're going to the Rose Bowl."



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GAME VIEW WITH DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR BROCK SPACK

Defense Wins Championshi

Boilermaker 'D' Comes Through Against IU

BY MATT BRANN

ollowing Purdue's euphoric 41-13 victory over Indiana, which clinched a Big Ten Championship and a Rose Bowl berth for the Boilermakers, Gold & Black Illustrated got defensive coordinator and former Purdue linebacker Brock Spack's thoughts on the game.

GBI: I won't even bother asking an opening question, just give us your thoughts.

Spack: "It's an unbelievable feeling. Our players deserve all the credit. They fought through a lot of adversity all season long. It's been unbelievable to fight to win a championship after our backs were against the wall. Since I was 7-years-old and started playing organized football, I have wished I could play or coach in the Rose Bowl. Now it's come true. It's a lifetime goal and truly unbelievable.

GBI: This has to be so rewarding for all the years of hard work you put in as both a player and a coach here at Purdue.

Spack: "There's no question, because this is what I've always wanted to do. Anybody who has played in the Big Ten or Pac-10, this is the ultimate dream. It's hard to describe this feeling."

GBI: Have you heard from a lot of your former teammates in the last couple of weeks?

Spack: "Yeah, they would call and wish us luck. The whole Purdue family has been that way. Everybody in the community has been outstanding. I'd like to thank all the fans for the support they've shown the past four seasons."

GBI: When is it going to sink in that Purdue is going to the Rose Bowl?

Spack: "I don't know when it will. It's been an unbelievable day.'

GBI: When you think of teams in the Rose Bowl, you think of Ohio State, Michigan and most recently Wisconsin. Does it seem weird for Purdue to be included in that group, or does it even belong with that group?

Spack: "We belong there. We've worked very hard as a program to get to this point. We deserve to be there."

GBI: I don't know where you were during the celebration on the field, but what was that atmosphere like?

Spack: "I was stuck in the middle of the crowd. I just wanted to take it all in. I like watching people's reactions and it was fun to see the players react to being Big Ten Champions.'

Redshirt freshman defensive end Shaun Phillips (53) had another strong game with eight tackles, including two for loss. Here he celebrates with junior Ben Smith (17) after crushing Hoosier punt returner Derin Graham.

GBI: There's a saying that goes, "Offense sells tickets, but defense wins championships." Purdue just won a championship, so what does that say about your defense?

Spack: "Our whole team has to take credit. We have a great offense and a special player in Drew Brees. Our defense feeds off them. We play reckless, because we know if we do make mistakes, we can score points. If we were going to win a championship, we knew we'd have to step it up on defense. Our defense played big in big games. I'm proud of

GBI: Obviously Indiana's offense centers around Antwaan Randle El and the option attack. How did you want to defend that?

Spack: "We tried to outnumber them. It all comes down to playing assignment foot-ball and being disciplined. We only blitzed once all game. We played base defense and tried to execute our technique. We didn't give up too many big plays. We needed to be aggressive, but still remain patient. That was our game plan."

GBI: Were you hoping the offense could score some points early and make IU play from behind, thus making Randle El pass more often?

Spack: "Yes, we wanted them to play from behind. Randle El throws the ball well, but he didn't have a particularly good day. Obviously when we got a lead, it changed the way IU played."

GBI: Indiana was driving down the field on its second possession of the game when linebacker Gilbert Gardner hit Randle El and forced him to fumble Did you feel that play set the tone for the rest of the game?

Spack: "That was a huge play. It was an extremely athletic play. On the previous play, Gilbert got cut-blocked and he was upset with himself. But he came back, made a great play and stripped the ball."

GBI: On Indiana's first touchdown, it seemed like everybody was bunched up in the front of the end zone and Randle El managed to find Versie Gaddis in the back of the end zone for the touchdown. What happened?

Spack: "He snuck in behind us. We got lost when Randle El was scrambling. (Gaddis) found a spot in the back of the end zone like a good receiver will do. Then Randle El made a great pass."

GBI: Against Michigan State, the defense struggled on third downs, but against the Hoosiers you held them to 3-of-10 on third-down conversions. How pleased are you that the defense was able to regain its success on third downs?

Spack: "That's been one of our focuses all year. Up until the Michigan State game, I thought we played real well on third downs. We wanted to improve our third-down percentage from a year ago, and we've done that. In the big games, we have done a good job of that. Against Michigan State, I thought we were horrible, but today we were outstanding. We call third down,

'The money down,' and we won the money down a lot.

GBI: Talk about the job safety Stuart Schweigert did today. He had two interceptions and seems to continue to improve

Spack: "He's good, and he's got a long way to go to be as good as he can be. He's nowhere near where he could be. It will be curious to see how he works in the offseason and how much he wants to develop his game. But he's had a great start to his career.'

GBI: What did you say to Schweigert when he came off the field after he dropped the ball in the end zone following his first interception?

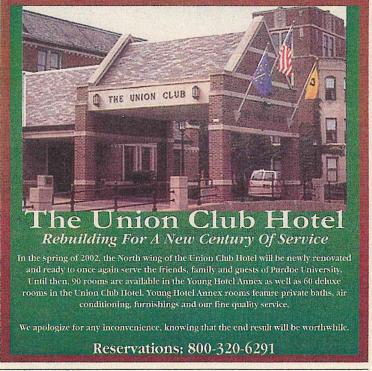
Spack: "It wasn't pleasant. I wasn't too happy with him, but it was a teaching moment. He made a great catch and dropped the ball. It's a live ball and he didn't know that. But obviously now he does."

GBI: There was a play in the second half when Randle El ran out-of-bounds right at you and it appeared as though you had some things to say to each other. What was said?

Spack: "I tried to hold him up and keep him from getting knocked down. He had his back to me and thought I was trying to hold him, so he slapped my hands away. But he came back and apologized because he realized I was trying to help him."

GBI: Going to the Rose Bowl is sweet enough, but how much better is it that you clinched it against IU?

Spack: "It's great. It's our rival and we were playing against such a great player in Randle El. You couldn't write a better script in Hollywood for it to come down to this. I guess in the annals of Purdue football history, this will go down as one of the greatest games ever. But we've got some more history to write, starting Jan. 1, 2001."



PURDUE'S SENIORS: CLASS A

Seventeen Boilermakers Finishing Collegiate Careers With Trip To Pasadena

BY DOUG GRIFFITHS

urdue's Nov. 18 win over Indiana put 17 Boilermaker seniors in elite company.

Purdue's senior class became just the second in the program's 113-year history to lead the Old Gold and Black to the Rose Bowl.

When Purdue last went to the Rose Bowl during the 1966 season, many of this year's seniors' parents were in high school or college.

Making the current Boilermaker senior class even more unique is the fact that it led Purdue to first Big Ten Championship since 1967.

Not only has the 2000 season been special, but this senior class has left an impression over the past four years that Boilermaker faithful will never forget.

The Boilermakers are headed to their fourth straight bowl game this season, an achievement

never before accomplished at Purdue.

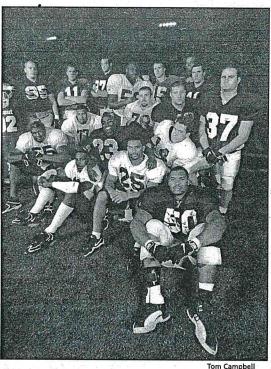
The group has led the Boilermakers to a combined 33-15 overall record, 22-10 in the Big Ten, including 2-1 in the postseason.

A tremendous amount of that success has come in the friendly confines of Ross-Ade Stadium. Since the 1996 season, Purdue is 21-3 in West Lafayette, including 6-0 this season and 6-0 in 1998. No Purdue senior class since 1979 has posted two undefeated home seasons during their four-year careers.

"As these seniors have grown, our program has grown," Coach Joe Tiller said. "As young players, they observed, listened to the lessons that were being taught and applied them. As a result, they're in the position they're in.

"I would characterize this senior class as, 'Quality.' It's one of those unusual senior classes where you have nearly everybody accepting their role, which is the epitome of a team."

The 17 seniors who played their final home game against the Hoosiers were offensive guard Ian Allen, defensive tackle Brent Botts, quarterback Drew Brees, cornerback Chris Clopton, wide receiver Keith Dawson, defensive end Brian Dinkins, quarterback David Edgerton, defensive end Rocco Foggio, defensive tackle Jody Goatley, offensive tackle Brandon Gorin, cornerback Bryan Jacquay, offensive tackle Matt Light, defensive end



The 2000 Boilermaker seniors

Warren "Ike" Moore, center Chukky Okobi, wide receiver Vinny Sutherland, strong safety Tom Vaughan and wide receiver Donald Winston.

"These last four years have just flown by," Brees said. "It seems like yesterday I was a freshman. I can look back at every game and remember just about every detail. It has flown by, but the good thing about that is people say if you're winning, the season goes by faster. We've been winning, so it's gone by fast.

There's no question Nov. 18 was a bittersweet day. Saying goodbye to Brees, among others, wasn't easy. During his Purdue career, the Austin, Texas, native has established himself as the greatest Purdue quarterback and one of the Big Ten's best ever. He holds nearly every league passing mark, including yards, touchdowns, completions, attempts and total offense.

"Drew has certainly been a delight to be around since the day he first arrived." Tiller said. "Surprisingly, he's not much different now than he was as an 18-year-old. He came in as a very respectful guy.

"One of the things I'll remember most about Drew Brees is how he never changed. He came in very mature, very polished and very humble. He leaves the same way he

"Every good thing about competitive athletics is packaged in Drew Brees."

Over the past four years, Brees and company have been part of some of the most memorable games in Purdue football history.

The senior class was quick to point out how they'll never forget the wins over Notre Dame in 1997 and '99. Michigan State in '97, '98 and '99, Wisconsin in '97 and 2000, Kansas State in '98, and Michigan and Ohio State this

Absent from most of their lists were the four wins over Indiana. But don't think they don't treasure winning the Old Oaken Bucket. The seniors will leave Purdue undefeated against their arch-rival. The last class to go undefeated against the Hoosiers graduated in 1986.

"Winning games has been so addictive that we haven't been able to stop," Okobi said. "It's felt so good."

Below, Tiller shares some of his thoughts about each senior.

IAN ALLEN

"Ian is a guy who found a home in the offensive line and has become very valuable because he's not only been a starter for us, but he's been a fantastic utility lineman playing multiple positions."

"One of the things I'll remember most about Drew Brees is how he never changed. He came in very mature, very polished and very humble. He leaves the same way he came in... every good thing about competitive athletics is packaged in Drew Brees."

— Coach Joe Tiller

BRENT BOTTS

"He was a guy who really grew into the (defensive tackle) position and has provided some very necessary leadership during his senior year. He has probably made his greatest contributions off the field, although he's been a contributor on the field."

DREW BREES

"He has represented Purdue University in a very unusual fashion. He impressed people from his first public exposure and as he leaves he continues to impress people. He represents all the positive and good things about Purdue that you would hope the public would perceive your university and program being. He's what you want your program to be."

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This Week's Tom Gall **Boilermaker Trivia**

What was USC ranked by the Associated Press when Purdue played it in the 1967 Rose Bowl?

E-mail the correct answer to marked "TJ Gall Trivia" to gnbmanager@aol.com and you will be registered to win two tickets to the Purdue-Michigan men's basketball game on Jan. 3, 2001. Deadline for your answer is Dec. 1, 2000. Answer to the trivia question from Issue 9: John Pont was the coach at Indiana who claimed there was a kink in the first down chain at the end of the 1968 Bucket game which Purdue won, 38-35.

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Tom Gall Purdue BCM '82

CHRIS CLOPTON

"Clopton is a very positive, upbeat guy who is a fierce competitor. He's bright and has provided much needed leadership on defense, particularly in the secondary, during his senior year."

KEITH DAWSON

"Keith struggled to adapt to Purdue and the offense, but to his credit has done a really admirable job of making something very positive out of his senior year. He's a guy we have a lot of

BRIAN DINKINS

"He was an overlooked guy, who has continued to improve each year. He probably had his best year as a junior, but as a senior he's been a major contributor and done a good job in the leadership role. He's contributed when called upon."

DAVID EDGERTON

"David was thrust into a very difficult position being the backup to Drew. Particularly his senior year, he's been very positive which is a credit to him that he's accepted his role and really become the ultimate team player,"

ROCCO FOGGIO

"Rocco is another guy who has been a role player for us. He's played a number of different positions. In his senior year, he has been willing to accept whatever has been asked of him in an effort to help the team be successful."

JODY GOATLEY

"Jody has been a very positive player who has had a positive presence on our team. He's' done whatever has been asked of him, including spending some time on the scout team as a senior which is difficult for older players to do. He's been a very valuable guy to our team."

BRANDON GORIN

"Gorin has slowly but consistently matured and developed over the years. He has a lot of pride in what he does. He's playing his best football in this his senior year."

BRYAN JACQUAY

"Jacquay has been similar to Goatley in that he's a guy who has never played for us, but he's accepted his role and been there every day for us. He's been a very valuable player in regards to getting our team ready to play."

MATT LIGHT

"Over the years, Matt Light has developed into a leader. He leads by example, plus encouragement. He sets a tone for our offensive line from a toughness perspective."



Drew Brees has started 36 straight games, more than any other Boilermaker quarterback. He's led th a 24-12 overall record, 16-8 in the Big Ten. led the Boilermakers to

WARREN "IKE" MOORE

"Ike has battled injuries but keeps coming back. He's like the Energizer Bunny, he justkeeps going and going. I have a lot of respect for Ike because he's played through a number of injuries and loves the game of football. He's tried to contribute wherever possible."

CHUKKY OKOBI

"Chukky is a guy who has served in different capacities, mostly as a guard, but then as a center. I think he's an inspirational leader for our football team."

VINNY SUTHERLAND

"Over the years, Vinny has matured into being a reliable receiver and a guy who takes some real pride in competing in tough situations. He's provided a spark to our team that has really allowed us to come off the canvas at times and win some games."

TOM VAUGHAN

"Tom has accepted his role. He's been a special teams player throughout his career. He's been a major contributor, particularly from a team standpoint, during his senior year."

DONALD WINSTON

"Donald struggled through injuries. He had a lot of promise as a young player, but had an injury that would've caused some players to give up the game, but he chose to continue and compete. He provides some direction for our younger players and he's contributing where possible."

The seniors were filled with emotion when they were announced prior to the IU game.

"I ran on that field remembering everything from when the stadium was empty to now when you can't fit another person in it," Light said. "I thought about how amazing it is to play in this environment with these guys. To be graduating with the talent and the character I'm around is just simply amazing. That was a day your mom and dad wait for your entire career

"For it all to come together like that, being in that situation and playing Indiana, it didn't get any better."

"It hurt running out there for the last time," Sutherland said. "The Ross-Ade crowd has really taken to me and I'll never forget it. I loved playing well for that crowd. They deserve a trip to the Rose Bowl because they helped us win the Michigan and Ohio State games.'

Just like his players, Tiller had mixed emotions when the seniors took the Ross-Ade Stadium gridiron one last time.

"You're extremely proud of the things these guys have been able to accomplish and how they've grown as people and athletes,' Tiller said. "At the same time, it was sad. It's like when one of your children moves out of the house. You're sad to see them move on.

These guys have been good, so you want to keep them forever but that's part of the growth process and them maturing into independent people."

As tough as it was being introduced for the final time in Ross-Ade and getting a rousing ovation, the day Brees says farewell to his offensive line may be hard to swallow.

'Those guys up front have really been the heart and soul of the team as far as keeping guys focused and ready to go at all times,' Brees said, "Sometimes when I step into the huddle, I don't have to say a word because those guys have already said exactly what I was going to say."

Gorin added, "We are really close. It's weird how of the four seniors, Chukky is the only one who started out on the offensive line. When I came here, I didn't expect to be an offensive lineman, and I'm sure Ian and

Matt didn't either. But we've grown real close. We were all in the same recruiting class and have been here five years.

"Drew is a guy who is real appreciative of what we try to get done for him on Saturdays. You can't do that for a better guy than Drew."

Even after three straight bowl trips, this year's upperclassmen made sure prior to the start of the 2000 season that another bowl excursion would be on the agenda.

"We had a lot of meetings as a senior class before the season to get things straightened out," Gorin admitted. "We wanted to make sure everybody was on the same page and knew the goals we had for this season. We have a lot of seniors that play and contribute to the team. The seniors knew we had to take a leadership role because there were some younger guys who were going to play. We had higher expectations this year, so we wanted to make sure everybody would do what it takes to reach our goals."

There's no question this group of seniors has attained many of its goals. In doing so, they have raised the expectation level at Purdue exponentially.

"When I got here it was a scattered group and there wasn't a whole lot of optimism as far as winning the Big Ten," Light said. "I never thought about anything like that. Now, all you think about in this program is, 'What can we achieve this year and how far are we going to go?"

After this season, Brees and Light, along with Gorin, Sutherland and Okobi, are headed toward what they hope are lengthy NFL careers. However, for guys like Dinkins, their playing careers will end after the Rose Bowl. While Dinkins' playing days will soon end, the memories and friendships he's made at Purdue will last a lifetime

"I love each and every one of these guys," said Dinkins, a former walk on. "We're a close knit group. We've learned a lot from each other and I think you can see that when we play."

"I can always look back on my career and say, 'I was there when we went from nothing to a powerhouse," Light said. "That will be neat to say down the road."

"Going to the Rose Bowl is the ultimate goal," Okobi added. "That's been our goal since I got here."

Now that the Boilermakers are bound for Pasadena, the 2000 senior class will go down in Purdue annals as one of the best ever.



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