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# NOTRE DAME

## F O O T B A L L

### MEDIA DAY EDITION: AUGUST 15, 2001

#### NOTRE DAME (0-0)

Sept. 8	at Nebraska	7:00 CDT
Sept. 16	at Purdue	2:30 EST
Sept. 23	MICHIGAN STATE	1:30 EST
Sept. 28	at Texas A&M	TBA
Oct. 6	PITTSBURGH	1:30 EST
Oct. 13	WEST VIRGINIA	1:30 EST
Oct. 20	USC	1:30 EST
Oct. 27	at Boston College	TBA
Nov. 3	TENNESSEE	1:30 EST
Nov. 17	NAVY	2:30 EST
Nov. 24	at Stanford	5:00 PST

#### PRESEASON RANKINGS

Here's where Notre Dame was ranked in the preseason and final AP polls since 1987:

Year	Preseason	Final
1987	18	17
1988	13	1
1989	2	2
1990	2	6
1991	6	13
1992	3	4
1993	7	2
1994	2	NR
1995	9	11
1996	6	19
1997	11	NR
1998	22	22
1999	18	NR
2000	NR	16
2001	18	?

#### WELCOME TO NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL MEDIA DAY 2001

Welcome to Notre Dame Football Media Day 2001 at Notre Dame Stadium. Festivities begin at 11:00 a.m. with lunch followed by Notre Dame head coach Bob Davie at 12:00 p.m. Once Davie is finished, all media will move down to the field where interviews with the players will begin at roughly 1:00 p.m. We ask that you try and conclude all player interviews by 2:00 p.m., as fan appreciation day and an autograph session will be going on at the same time

#### FAN APPRECIATION DAY

Fan Appreciation Day is scheduled from 1:30-3:00 p.m. at Notre Dame Stadium. Most players will be available to sign autographs during this time.

#### PRACTICE SCHEDULE FOR AUG 16-29

The Irish are scheduled for two-a-day practices for the next week before having their first scrimmage of the fall on Saturday, August 25 at 9:00 a.m.. The following is a practice schedule and media accessibility for preseason practice:

Thursday, Aug. 16	9-11 a.m., 4:45-6:25 p.m.	<b>(Both sessions open to media)</b>
Friday, Aug. 17	9-11 a.m., 4:45-6:25 p.m.	<b>(Both Sessions closed to media)</b>
Saturday, Aug. 18	9-11 a.m., 4:45-6:25 p.m.	<b>(Both sessions closed to media)</b>
Sunday, Aug. 19	9-11 a.m., 4:45-6:25 p.m.	<b>(Morning session open)</b>

#### All Remaining Sessions Closed to the Media

Monday, Aug. 20	9-11 a.m., 4:45-6:25 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 21	9-11 a.m., 4:45-6:25 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 22	4:15-6:15 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 23	9-11 a.m., 4:45-6:25 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 24	9-11 a.m., 4:35-6:25 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 25	9-11 a.m. (Scrimmage)
Sunday, Aug. 26	5-7 p.m.
Monday, Aug. 27	6:45-8:45 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 28	No Practice (First Day of Class)
Wednesday, Aug. 29	4-6 p.m.

#### THE HEAD COACH

Fifth-year Irish head coach **Bob Davie** owns a 30-19 (.612) career record at Notre Dame. The University announced on Dec. 5, 2000, that Davie signed a five-year contract to continue coaching the Irish through the 2005 season. Davie was one of three finalists for the *Football News* 2000 coach-of-the-year award and was one of 10 finalists for the 1998 Walter Camp Foundation *Street and Smith's* Coach of the Year Award. Davie coached the Irish to a second season-opening ranked win in 2000 against No. 23 Texas A&M, and the win over 13th-ranked Purdue marked the earliest the Irish had beaten two ranked opponents since 1990. The '98 opening win over No. 5 and defending national champion Michigan, his '97 squad's victories over No. 11 LSU and No. 22 West Virginia to mark the first time a Notre Dame team beat ranked foes on consecutive weeks since November '92. The 2001 season marks Davie's eighth year at Notre Dame overall, after serving as defensive coordinator and inside linebacker coach from 1994-96. He coached nine seasons at Texas A&M ('85-'93), two at Tulane ('83-'84), four at Pittsburgh ('77, '80-'82) and two at Arizona ('78-'79), spending both years at Tulane as defensive coordinator and the last five at Texas A&M in that role.

#### THE INJURY UPDATE (as of Aug. 15)

None



**MEDIA INFORMATION**

**THE DAVIE CONFERENCES**

**Bob Davie's** weekly teleconference-style press conferences are available via satellite on Tuesday prior to each Notre Dame game, with the first slated for Sept. 5 (there are no conferences on open-date weeks). They are held at 1:30 p.m. EST at the WNDU Studios (on US 933/Business 31, west edge of campus) in South Bend. A light lunch is served beginning at 12:30 p.m., and at least one Irish player generally is available for interviews between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m. Out-of-town media can connect to the conference via phone to listen and ask questions by calling the sports information office at (219) 631-7516. All teleconference are available on satellite. Please contact the Sports Information Office for coordinates. Approximately five minutes of video highlights from the previous week's Notre Dame game are included at the end of each hour-long satellite feed.

**TUESDAY TRANSCRIPTIONS**

Exact transcriptions of **Bob Davie's** Tuesday and Sunday press conferences are available at the Notre Dame sports information department, through the Notre Dame web site at [www.und.com](http://www.und.com).

**THE SUNDAY WRAP-UP**

**Bob Davie** also holds a 30 minute teleconference every Sunday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. EST to review Saturday's game, update injuries and previews the upcoming game. Please contact the Notre Dame Sports Information Office for the teleconference number.

**KEVIN WHITE RADIO SHOW**

A weekly half-hour talk show featuring Notre Dame athletics director **Kevin White** airs beginning Aug. 26 on Chicago's ESPN Radio 1000. "The Kevin White Show" is scheduled to air from 11:00-11:30 p.m. EST for 30 consecutive Sundays on ESPN radio (1000 AM in Chicago, [www.espnradio1000.com](http://www.espnradio1000.com)). The show also can be heard in 35 states. White will welcome to the show a series of guests and prominent figures associated with college athletics, including administrators, coaches and media members.

**THE 2001 CAPTAINS**

**OLB Rocky Boiman, FL David Givens, DE Grant Irons** and **DE Anthony Weaver** will serve as captains for the 2001 season. All are first-time captains, except Irons who becomes only the 13th two-time captain in Notre Dame history and the first since **Ron Powilus** did it for the 1996 and 1997 seasons.

**FRESHMAN WALKONS**

Notre Dame's freshman practices included 19 scholarship players and three walkons: **QB Pat Dillingham** (6-1, 190, Portola Valley, Calif./St. Francis) will wear No. 9 with **CB Jason Beckstrom**. **K/P D.J. Fitzpatrick** (6-1, 195, Granger, Ind./Marion) will share No. 19 with **FS Glenn Earl**, while **OG/Long Snapper Casey Dunn** (6-5, 255, Miami, FL/Gulliver Prep) will wear No. 64 with fellow walk-on **Jeffrey Campbell**.

**NUMBER CHANGES**

- The Irish made one number change from the media guide rosters as freshman **TE Matt Root** has gone from No. 89 to No. 83.

**GETTING A LATE START**

The Nebraska game, scheduled for Sept. 8, is the latest season opener for the Irish since playing Michigan on Sept. 15, to begin the 1990 season.

**THE 2001 SCHEDULE**

- Notre Dame will once again play one of the nation's toughest schedules as it faces seven teams who appeared in bowl games in 2000 (Nebraska, Purdue, Texas A&M, Boston College, West Virginia, Tennessee and Pittsburgh).
- Two of Notre Dame's 2001 opponents are ranked in the top eight (Nebraska -No.4/No.4 and Tennessee - No. 8/No.7) by both the Associated Press and the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll, while six other teams (Purdue, Texas A&M, Pittsburgh, Stanford, Michigan State and West Virginia) also received votes.
- The Irish schedule was voted the sixth toughest out of 116 schools by Sports Illustrated and the toughest of the top 20 schools in the nation (No. 23-ranked UCLA has the fifth toughest schedule according to SI, while Irish opponent USC has the toughest)

**IRISH APPEAR IN PRESEASON RANKINGS**

Look for Notre Dame to make another run on the national collegiate football scene this fall, based on the first wave of college preview magazines that listed the Irish as high as 12th in preseason polls. *Preview Sports* put the Irish 12th, while Notre Dame was 14th in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll, *Street & Smith's* and *Athlon*, 16th according to *The Sporting News* and the *Blue Ribbon Yearbook*, 18th according to the Associated Press and *Sports Illustrated*, 19th by *ESPN The Magazine* and 22nd by *Lindy's*.

**WEAVER, IRONS AND JONES EARN PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA HONORS**

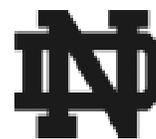
Senior **DE Anthony Weaver** was a second-team preseason All-America choice by *Athlon* -- and junior **TB Julius Jones** also earned second-team recognition from *Athlon* as a kick returner. *Street & Smith's* rated Jones a second-team kickoff returner and senior **Grant Irons** a second-team defensive end. Weaver was also named the 13th best player in the country according to Mel Kiper's top 30 players for the 2001 season.

**FIVE EARN PRESEASON HONORABLE MENTION ALL-AMERICA HONORS**

*Street & Smith's* listed senior **Tony Fisher** among running backs, senior **Jordan Black** among offensive linemen, senior **Anthony Weaver** among defensive linemen, senior **Rocky Boiman** among linebackers and junior **Joey Hildbold** among punters as preseason honorable mention All-America selections. *Street & Smith's* also rated Fisher as one of 11 candidates for the Doak Walker Award as the top running back in the country and Hildbold as one of three candidates for the Ray Guy Award as the top punter in the nation.

**IRISH PLAYERS RANK HIGH IN LINDY'S AND THE SPORTING NEWS**

*Lindy's* rated junior center **Jeff Faine** as the number-three center in the country, while *The Sporting*



*News* had Faine seventh. *Lindy's* rated **Anthony Weaver** 18th and **Grant Irons** 15th among defensive end, with *The Sporting News* putting Irons 10th and Weaver 16th. *The Sporting News* rated **Julius Jones** 15th among running backs, senior **Tom Lopienski** 12th among fullbacks, senior **Jordan Black** 14th among offensive tackles, senior **Rocky Boiman** 14th among outside linebackers and junior **Gerome Sapp** 11th among strong safeties.

**POSITION UNITS AND FRESHMAN RANK NATIONALLY AS WELL**

*Athlon* rated the Irish running backs as the fourth-best group in the nation. *Lindy's* listed the Irish defensive line as eighth best. *The Sporting News* put Notre Dame's offensive backfield seventh.

*Athlon* listed the Notre Dame freshman class as the 12th-best in the country, while *Lindy's* had the Irish rookies 14th.

**TB TONY FISHER NAMED TO DOAK WALKER AWARD WATCH LIST**

For the second consecutive season, Irish **TB Tony Fisher** has been named to the Doak Walker Award Watch List. The Doak Walker Award, named in honor of the late SMU running back, is given annually to the top running back in the nation.

**GEROME SAPP NAMED TO THORPE AWARD WATCH LIST**

**SS Gerome Sapp** was named to the Jim Thorpe Award watch list. The Thorpe Award is given annually to the nation's top defensive back.

**TICKET UPDATE**

All six of Notre Dame's home football games for 2001 are sold out, with demand for tickets to the Oct. 13 Notre Dame-West Virginia game ranking highest in the history of Notre Dame Stadium. The sellouts are based on demand from contributing alumni (contributions to the University of \$100 or more in the previous calendar year earn alumni the ability to apply for two tickets to any home or away contests), with approximately 33,000 tickets per home game available via a game-by-game lottery system.

The Notre Dame ticket office received requests for 59,368 tickets for the West Virginia game, breaking the record of 57,048 from the 1997 Notre Dame-USC game in the first year of the expanded Notre Dame Stadium.

Demand for the 2001 West Virginia game was based on parents of current Notre Dame students being guaranteed four tickets for that contest -- plus contributing alumni having the opportunity to apply for four tickets instead of the usual two, based on its designation as an alumni family game.

Other high demand games for 2001 included Michigan State (48,404 requests -- based on senior alumni designation that guarantees two tickets to all alumni out of school 35 or more years -- which makes it third all-time in terms of demand), USC (47,127 requested, making it seventh all-time) and Tennessee (43,843 requests).

There also were nearly 17,000 requests for tickets to the Sept. 8 road game at Nebraska. Notre Dame receives 4,000 tickets for that contest.

The six guaranteed sellouts for 2001 mean the final home game in '01 on Nov. 17 against Navy will mark the 161st consecutive sellout at Notre Dame Stadium and the 209th in the last 210 home games.

**Here are the top 10 games in terms of alumni ticket demand at Notre Dame Stadium:**

<b>1. West Virginia</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>59,368</b>
2. USC	1997	57,048
<b>3. Michigan State</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>48,404</b>
4. Nebraska	2000	47,865
5. Michigan State	1997	47,681
6. Michigan	1998	47,233
<b>7. USC</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>47,127</b>
8. USC	1999	46,658
9. Army	1998	46,547
10. Boston College	2000	46,312

**BIG CROWDS**

Heading into the 2001 season, Notre Dame has played in front of capacity crowds in 127 of the previous 149 games. Each of the first 10 regular-season games involving Notre Dame during the '98 season--and the first 11 in '99--was played in front of a sellout crowd. The first five games of 2000 were played before capacity crowds and nine of 12 overall.

**MEDIA POLICIES**

**DAVIE INTERVIEWS**

Outside his regular Sunday and Tuesday teleconferences, the best time for **Bob Davie** interviews is after practice Monday-Thursday or by special appointment. Please contact the Notre Dame SID office to make specific arrangements.

**THE DAVIE SHOW**

**Bob Davie's** half-hour, weekly television show is syndicated nationally by Host Communications, produced by Golden Dome Productions and hosted by Jeff Jeffers. The show is carried by WNDU-TV in the South Bend market on the following Saturday (one hour before gametime) and on Fox Sports Net Chicago.

**MORE MEDIA NOTES**

- Monday is the only day practice is open to media (open week Monday plans are TBA). Cameras and media are permitted at Monday practice during the first four periods of practice (check with Notre Dame SID office for exact times).
- All player interviews must be coordinated through the Notre Dame SID office by contacting either John Heisler or Lisa Nelson. **All player and coach interviews will take place after practice at the tunnel entrance (north end) of Notre Dame Stadium.**
- Notre Dame's publicity material on football is available through [www.und.com](http://www.und.com). Contact the Notre Dame sports information office at 219-631-7516 for details.

**RELEASES AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL**

Media members interested in receiving Notre Dame football releases via email should send requests to [AssistnatSportsInformationDirector@nd.edu](mailto:AssistnatSportsInformationDirector@nd.edu).

**WEB SITE ([www.und.com](http://www.und.com))**

Notre Dame's official athletic department web site can be found at [www.und.com](http://www.und.com), with the extensive offerings including real-time statistics for all Notre Dame home football games.



## GRADUATION RATES

Notre Dame ranks among the top five NCAA Division I-A institutions in five major graduation rate categories — all student-athletes, football players, male student-athletes, female student-athletes and African-American student-athletes — according to the latest statistics released by the NCAA in November.

The 2000 NCAA Graduation-Rates Report, the 10th-such survey issued by the association, covers students who enrolled between 1990 and 1993 at 321 Division I institutions, including 114 in Division I-A. The NCAA bases graduation rates on the raw percentage of student-athletes who entered an institution and graduated within six years. Students who leave or transfer, regardless of academic standing, are considered nongraduates.

Using the NCAA formula, Notre Dame graduated a four-year average of 89 percent of its student-athletes, third only to Northwestern and Duke Universities at 92 and 91 percent, respectively. (Among student-athletes who complete all four years of athletic eligibility at Notre Dame, i.e., not considering those who leave or transfer, 99 percent earn their degrees.) The national average for Division I-A schools is 58 percent.

Notre Dame football players graduated at an 82 percent rate, the highest percentage among the 15 institutions rated in this week's Bowl Championship Series rankings. Among all Division I-A institutions, the football graduation rate for Notre Dame is third only to Northwestern at 88 percent and Stanford University at 83 percent. Notre Dame graduated 94 percent of all women competing in varsity athletics, second only to Northwestern at 98 percent. Among men, Notre Dame's 87 percent rate is fourth behind Duke and Northwestern at 90 percent and Stanford at 88 percent. Notre Dame graduated 81 percent of its African-American student-athletes, ranking behind only Northwestern, Duke, Vanderbilt University and Stanford.

## NOTRE DAME EXCELS IN ACADEMICS AS WELL AS ON THE FIELD

Notre Dame will receive the 2001 American Football Coaches Association's Academic Achievement Award, which is presented annually by the Touchdown Club of Memphis.

Notre Dame recorded a 100 percent graduation rate for members of its football squad when all members of their freshman class of 1995 earned a degree. Vanderbilt also recorded a 100 percent rate to share the 2001 award with Notre Dame.

Notre Dame won the award for the sixth time (previously in 1982, 1983, 1984-tie, 1988, 1991). Notre Dame's six awards are second-most behind the 10 won by Duke University.

Notre Dame has earned honorable mention status 14 times.

The 2001 AFCA Academic Achievement Award will be presented to Notre Dame and Vanderbilt at the AFCA Kickoff Luncheon during the Association's 2002 convention in San Antonio, Texas.

In addition to the 2001 AFCA Academic Achievement Award, the 2000 Notre Dame football squad had its most successful semesters in the classroom in the history of the program, based on final grades from the 2001 spring semester and the 2000 fall semester. In the spring, Notre Dame finishes with a combined team grade-point average of 2.75, the highest combines GPA on record, besting the previous high of 2.67 set during the 2000 fall semester.

## NICK BUONICONTI ENTERS PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

Former Notre Dame linebacker **Nick Buoniconti** —who went on to star for six seasons with the Boston Patriots and another seven seasons in the National Football League with the Miami Dolphins —became the eighth Notre Dame player to be inducted into the National Professional Football Hall of Fame, as a member of the class of 2001.

**Curly Lambeau**, who lettered for the Irish in 1918, was a charter member of the Hall in 1963 as a founder, player and coach for the Green Bay Packers from 1919-1949.

The other six former Notre Dame players in the pro Football Hall of Fame include: 1964 inductee **George Trafton** (C, Chicago Bears 1920-22), 1968 inductee **Wayne Millner** (E, Boston and Washington Redskins, 1936-41, 1945), 1975 inductee **George Connor** (T/LB, Chicago, 1948-55), 1986 inductee **Paul Hornung** (QB, Green Bay 1957-62, 1964-66), 1988 inductee **Alan Page** (DT, Minnesota 1967-78, Chicago 1978-81) and 2000 inductee **Joe Montana** (San Francisco 1979-92, Kansas City 1993-94).

The 2001 induction ceremonies were held at the Hall in Canton, Ohio, on Aug. 4, as an estimated 700,000 people took part in 20 different events over an 11-day period. Buoniconti was presented into the Hall by his son Mark. Others inducted into the 2001 Hall of Fame class were Marv Levy, Mike Munchak, Jackie Slater, Lynn Swann, Ron Yary and Jack Youngblood.

## GUGLIELMI NAMED TO COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

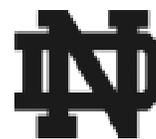
Former Notre Dame All-America quarterback **Ralph Guglielmi** is one of 15 former college football greats and three former coaches named to the National Football Foundation's College Football Hall of Fame. The announcement was made in New York City by NFF Chairman Jon F. Hanson and Honors Court Chairman Gene Corrigan.

Guglielmi will be inducted in December at the Foundation's 44th annual banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York -- then he'll be enshrined in ceremonies in August 2002 in South Bend at the College Football Hall of Fame.

Selected in addition to Guglielmi were USC halfback Jon Arnett, Georgia placekicker Kevin Butler, Michigan receiver Anthony Carter, Navy end Dick Duden, Syracuse defensive tackle Tim Green, Ohio State tackle John Hicks, Oklahoma tight end Keith Jackson, Clemson defensive back Terry Kinard, Mississippi State linebacker D.D. Lewis, North Carolina running back Donald McCauley, Kansas and Pennsylvania tackle John Outland, Penn State lineman Glenn Ressler, Michigan State defensive back Brad Van Pelt and BYU quarterback Steve Young -- along with coaches Barry Switzer from Oklahoma, Grant Teaff from McMurry, San Angelo State and Baylor and Bill Yeoman from Houston.

Guglielmi becomes the 39th former Notre Dame player to be selected for the Hall of Fame (there also are five former Notre Dame head coaches enshrined). He becomes the seventh former Irish quarterback to earn that honor -- following Frank Carideo, Harry Stuhldreher, Heisman Trophy winners John Lujack, Angelo Bertelli and Paul Hornung and most recently Bob Williams in 1988.

The 6-0, 180-pound Guglielmi was a three-year starter for the Irish at quarterback from 1952 through '54. He earned unanimous All-America honors as a senior in '54 after completing 68 of 127 passes for 1,160 yards and six touchdowns -- ranking fourth nationally in passing yards. He finished fourth in voting for the Heisman Trophy as a senior in '54. In his three seasons as a starter, the Irish finished 7-2-1 in '52 (third in final Associated Press poll), 9-0-1 in '53 (second) and 9-1 in '54 (fourth).



**GRAD. RATES (CONT.)**

Final Bowl Championship Series Standings  
Reranked by Football Player Graduation Rates

<b>1. Notre Dame</b>	<b>82%</b>
2. Florida State	59%
3. Oregon	58%
4. Nebraska	57%
T5. Clemson	56%
T5. Texas	56%
T5. Washington	56%
8. Oregon State	53%
9. Florida	50%
10. Miami	46%
11. Virginia Tech	45%
12. Kansas State	44%
13. TCU	42%
14. Michigan	41%
15. Georgia Tech	37%
16. Oklahoma	35%

All Student-Athletes

1. Northwestern	92%
2. Duke	91%
<b>T3. Notre Dame</b>	<b>89%</b>
T3. Stanford	89%
5. Boston College	83%

Football Players

1. Northwestern	88%
2. Stanford	83%
<b>3. Notre Dame</b>	<b>82%</b>
T4. Boston College	78%
T4. Vanderbilt	78%

Male Student-Athletes

T1. Duke	90%
T1. Northwestern	90%
3. Stanford	88%
<b>4. Notre Dame</b>	<b>87%</b>
5. Rice	79%

Female Student Athletes

1. Northwestern	98%
<b>2. Notre Dame</b>	<b>94%</b>
T3. Boston College	93%
T3. Duke	93%
T3. Virginia Tech	93%

African-American Student-Athletes

1. Northwestern	89%
2. Vanderbilt	87%
3. Duke	86%
4. Stanford	83%
<b>5. Notre Dame</b>	<b>81%</b>

He graduated with a degree in sociology from the College of Arts and Letters. Guglielmi earned MVP honors in the 1955 College All-Star Game and also played in the East-West Shrine Game. He was a first-round National Football League draft pick (third pick overall) of the Washington Redskins in 1955, moved on to play with St. Louis in 1961, the New York Giants in 1962 and with Philadelphia in 1963. He's now living in Potomac, Md., after retiring from his position as general manager of an auto dealership.

**2001 BLUE-GOLD GAME**

It's a rite of spring at Notre Dame, a game that marks the end of spring practice. It took a new twist in 1996 and '97 as two games were played each year in Moose Krause Stadium (behind the Joyce Center) because of the renovation of Notre Dame Stadium. In 2000 and 2001, a new approach was used, as the offensive and defensive units faced off with coaches creating an elaborate scoring system that rewarded everything from TDs to tackles to blocked field goals. Highlights in 2001 included the defensive line recording 13 sacks, including five by sophomore **Kyle Budinscak**. Senior cornerback and defensive MVP **Shane Walton** returned an interception return for a TD, while **David Givens** recorded TD receptions of 47 and 36 yards, one from **Matt LoVecchio** and one from **Jared Clark**.

**FORMER IRISH GREAT DAVE DUERSON**

Former Notre Dame football All-American **Dave Duerson** is still extremely involved with the University in all capacities. A former team captain, Duerson was named to the Notre Dame Board of Trustees in 2001, and was the winner of the 2001 Rev. Edward F. Sorin, C.S.C., Award from the Notre Dame Alumni Association. The Sorin Award is presented annually to a graduate who has embodied "the values of Our Lady's University" in his service to the community. The president of Fair Oaks Farms, Inc., a Wisconsin-based international meat supplier that in 1999 was ranked 64th among Black Enterprise 100 companies, Duerson previously served as a member of the advisory council for the University's Mendoza College of Business and currently is first vice president of the Notre Dame National Monogram Club (he will serve as president from June 2003-June 2005). He also is a member of the athletic department's student development mentoring program.

**FRIDAY FOOTBALL KICKOFF LUNCHEONS**

Tickets are available for the 2001 Notre Dame Football Kickoff Luncheons, beginning noon on Sept. 22 in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse (north dome). The luncheons will be held the same day and time before every Irish home football game this season. The 2001 Notre Dame Football Luncheons are sponsored by the Notre Dame Athletic Department and the speaking program each week includes a combination of special guests, head coach Bob Davie, members of the coaching staff and members of the Irish squad, in addition to video features. Tickets are \$18 each (plus \$3 handling charge per order) and are available by calling (219) 272-2870.

**PEP RALLIES**

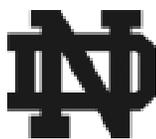
All 2001 pep rallies will be held in the Joyce Center Arena (south dome), with planned start times of 7:00 p.m.

**HUNDREDS OF FORMER PLAYERS SET TO FORM PREGAME "TUNNEL"**

Another Bob Davie-inspired tradition will continue with the home opener against Michigan State (Sept. 22), as prior to the game, the 2001 team will run through a tunnel comprised of former Irish football players (several hundred participated in 2000). Davie wrote a letter to every former Notre Dame football player during the summer of 1997, with the University providing them with the opportunity to buy two tickets to the home opener and inviting them to be a part of the tunnel ceremony. Nearly 250 Irish football alumni formed the tunnel prior to the 1997 opener against Georgia Tech and approximately 300 former players formed the tunnel prior to the 1998 opener versus Michigan before returning again for the '99 season opener against Kansas.

**ORDER YOUR MEDIA GUIDES AND YEARBOOKS TODAY**

This season marks the eighth edition of the Notre Dame Football Yearbook—an official publication by the University of Notre Dame athletic department. The 1994, '95, '96, '97 and '98 and 2000 editions were voted best in the nation in the special publications competition sponsored by the College Sports Information Directors of America. The yearbook, published with Host Communications, numbers more than 150 pages, including game action shots of returning Irish players and coaches, plus photo coverage



**SEARS DIRECTOR CUP**

Notre Dame finished 11th in the final set of sports standings released in the 2000-2001 Sears Directors' Cup all-sports competition. Spring NCAA competition earned the Irish points based on their semifinal appearance in men's lacrosse (75 points), a third-round appearance in women's tennis (50 points), a second-round showing in men's tennis (30 points), regional appearances in both softball and baseball (50 and 30 points respectively), and a 21st-place finish in men's track and field (63 points), giving Notre Dame 764.5 total points for 2000-2001. Winter sports points came from Notre Dame's NCAA championship in women's basketball (100 points), a third-place finish in fencing (80 points), a second-round finish in men's basketball (30 points), a 37th-place finish in women's swimming (31 points) and a 58th place finish in women's indoor track and field (23.5 points). Notre Dame earned 202 points during the fall sports season, thanks to the Irish women's soccer team's NCAA semi-final finish, the men's cross country team finishing ninth at the NCAA championships, the football team's final ranking of 16, plus the volleyball team advancing to the NAATAs. Stanford (1,359 points) won the competition, followed by UCLA, Georgia, Michigan and Arizona. In previous years in which the Sears Directors' Cup competition has been held, Notre Dame has finished 11th in 1993-94, 30th in '94-'95, 11th in '95-'96, 14th in '96-'97, tied for 31st in '97-'98, 25th in '98-'99 and 21st in 1999-2000.

of the Irish award winners and campus scenes. It's a collectors item that's perfect for autographs—with an emphasis on outstanding color photography unavailable in any other publication. The yearbook is priced at \$8 (plus \$4 for postage and handling) and can be ordered by calling 1-800-313-4678 or by writing to: Notre Dame Programs, 904 N. Broadway, Lexington, KY 40505.

**THE 2000 SEASON IN REVIEW:**

**DAVIE NAMED COACH OF THE YEAR FINALIST**

Head coach Bob Davie was named one of three finalists (along with Oklahoma's Bob Stoops and South Carolina's Lou Holtz) for the *Football News* 2000 coach-of-the-year award. Davie led the Irish to a 9-3 record in 2001 and an Associated Press national ranking of 16th. Notre Dame won seven consecutive games to close out the regular-season, earning a spot in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl. Davie also was selected as one of five regional coaches of the year in college football by American Football Monthly and Schutt Sports. The other regional winners were South Carolina's Lou Holtz, Oklahoma's Bob Stoops, Oregon State's Dennis Erickson and UTEP's Gary Nord.

**IRISH POST THIRD-BEST TURNAROUND IN SCHOOL HISTORY**

After finishing the '99 season with a 5-7 record, the 2000 Irish recorded the third-best turnaround in consecutive seasons in the history of Notre Dame football. The 2000 season also stands as the most-improved Irish team in the last 36 years. The four-game improvement trails only the '64 team (+6.5 at 9-1 after 2-7 in '63) and the '57 team (+5 at 7-3 from 2-8 in '56) that snapped Oklahoma's NCAA-record 47-game winning streak.

**IRISH SET NCAA TURNOVER RECORD**

After its fourth game of the season without a turnover vs. USC, Notre Dame set the NCAA record for fewest turnovers per game (8 for 11, 0.73) and tied the NCAA record for fewest turnovers with eight (four fumbles and four INTs). The 1940 Clemson team and the 1966 Miami (Ohio) teams also turned the ball over just eight times. The Tigers played nine games that season, while the RedHawks played 10 games and held the previous NCAA record for fewest turnovers per game (0.80).

- The previous Irish record for fewest turnovers was 10 in '93, and the '97 team was second best with 13 in Bob Davie's first year as head coach at Notre Dame. The '00 Irish also broke the school record for fewest fumbles lost, topping the five lost by the '93 team.

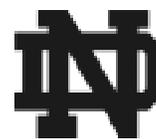
- The seven consecutive games without a lost fumble to start the season marked the longest streak for Notre Dame since a seven-game streak during the last six games in '93 (BYU, USC, Navy, Florida State, Boston College, Texas A&M in Cotton Bowl) and the first game of the '94 season vs. Northwestern.

**LOVECCHIO FINISHES WITH SEASON INTERCEPTION RECORD**

QB **Matt LoVecchio** -- who led the Irish to seven consecutive wins to finish the regular season in his first seven starting appearances -- completed an historical freshman campaign by setting the Notre Dame single-season school record for lowest interception percentage. Only one of his 125 passes was intercepted for a 0.80 percentage, more than half of the previous record of 1.72 set by Ron Powlus in 1996 (four of 232). His only interception came with eight seconds remaining in the first half of the Navy game, his second career start. Here's where LoVecchio stands on the lowest interception percentage list:

1. **Matt LoVecchio . 0.80 (1 of 125) ..... 2000**
2. Ron Powlus ..... 1.72 (4 of 232) ..... 1996
3. Rick Slager ..... 2.16 (3 of 139) ..... 1975
4. Ron Powlus ..... 2.34 (7 of 298) ..... 1997
5. Rick Mirer ..... 2.56 (6 of 234) ..... 1992
6. Steve Beuerlein .. 2.70 (7 of 259) ..... 1986
7. Rick Mirer ..... 3.00 (6 of 200) ..... 1990
8. Kevin McDougal . 3.15 (5 of 159) ..... 1993
9. Jarious Jackson .. 3.19 (6 of 188) ..... 1998

- In addition to throwing just one interception, LoVecchio completed 73 of his 125 passes for a .584 completion percentage -- the fourth highest season mark in Notre Dame history (minimum of 100



NOTRE DAME AND ADIDAS

The University of Notre Dame and adidas have entered into a new, five-year agreement in which adidas will supply footwear and apparel for all 26 Irish varsity athletic teams beginning with the 2001-02 academic year.

The agreement continues a four-year relationship with adidas that began in 1997-98 when adidas began providing footwear for all Notre Dame teams. Champion Products has been providing uniforms for Notre Dame teams in football, men's and women's basketball, softball and cheerleading — with the relationship in football going back more than 50 years.

"Notre Dame has had a long-standing relationship with Champion. They have been a great partner for our athletic teams," said Notre Dame athletic director Kevin White.

"It was our desire to create a marketing partnership with a company that could supply both footwear and apparel. Very simply, Champion is not in the shoe business, so we looked exclusively to adidas, based on the strong relationship that was forged with them four years ago.

"We've been extremely pleased with what Notre Dame and adidas have been able to accomplish while working together, and we fully expect that this extended relationship will only strengthen each of our respective positions."

Champion expects to maintain a relationship with the University — with both adidas and Champion continuing their arrangements to sell licensed apparel and accessories bearing the Notre Dame trademark.

IRISH HOME RATINGS UP 22% ON NBC

NBC's coverage of Notre Dame in 2000 finished with an impressive 3.3 rating/9 share (6 tc's) which represents a 22 percent increase over the 2.7 rating/7 share posted in 1999 (7 tc's), according to national numbers released by Nielsen Media Research. The six game cumulative rating marked the best Notre Dame ratings performance on NBC since 1996, when Fighting Irish football earned a 3.4 rating/10 share (6 tc's).

attempts). Here's where LoVecchio finished on the Irish single-season completion percentage list:

1. Ron Powlus ..... .611 (182 of 298) .... 1997
2. Steve Beuerlein . .603 (140 of 232) .... 1984
3. Terry Hanratty .... .589 (116 of 197) .... 1968
4. **Matt LoVecchio .584 (73 of 125) ..... 2000**
5. Steve Beuerlein . .583 (151 of 259) .... 1986
6. Joe Theismann .. .578 (155 of 268) .... 1970

• LoVecchio's passing efficiency rating finished at 151.70, a rating which would have placed him seventh in the country if he met the NCAA minimum of playing in 75 percent of a team's game. LoVecchio played in eight of 11 regular-season games (.73). LoVecchio's rating edged the 151.3 rating of McDougal in '93 for the best by an Irish QB since 1990. Other high ratings for Irish QBs in the '90s are Jarious Jackson's 149.5 in '98, Rick Mirer's 149.2 in '91, Powlus' 141.3 in '96, Powlus' 140.7 in '95 and Jackson's 140.3 in '99.

RED ZONE REPORT

The Irish capitalized on 33 of their 35 trips inside the red zone in 2000 (including a season-best five for five versus USC) with the only missed opportunities coming on a loss on downs against Michigan State and a missed FG against Rutgers. Notre Dame recorded 21 rushing touchdowns, seven passing touchdowns and five field goals from **Nick Setta**. The red zone chances include two each for the Irish and their opponents in overtime.

IRISH SPECIAL TEAMS TRULY SPECIAL

The Irish special teams played key roles in nearly every Notre Dame game in 2000. Here is a game-by-game look at the success and impact of Notre Dame's special teams:

**Texas A&M:** With the Irish trailing 10-7 in the third quarter and being forced to punt after three plays result in a loss of one yard on its opening series of the second half, P Joey Hildbold booms a 69-yard punt that is downed at the Aggies' three-yard line. After Notre Dame's defense forces A&M to punt from its eight-yard line, **Arnaz Battle** connects with **Javin Hunter** for a 46-yard TD pass just two plays later for what would be the game-winning TD.

**Nebraska:** Trailing the top-ranked Huskers 21-7 in the third quarter, the Irish use a kickoff return for a TD and a punt return for a TD to send the game into overtime. **Julius Jones** answers a Nebraska TD with a 100-yard KO return in the third quarter, before **Joey Getherall** takes a Husker punt 83 yards in the fourth quarter to tie the game at 21.

**Purdue:** In Notre Dame's 23-21 win over eventual Big 10 champion and Rose Bowl bound Purdue, **Glenn Earl** blocks Travis Dorsch's punt on the Boilers' first possession as the Irish took over at the Boiler four-yard line -- leading to the first Irish touchdown in the victory. **Nick Setta** seals the win with another special teams' highlight -- the fifth game-winning field goal at 0:00 in Notre Dame history with a 38 yarder in just his third career game.

**Stanford:** With the Irish leading by a 7-0 score, **David Givens** blocks Mike Biselli's punt as Notre Dame takes over at the Stanford 10-yard line with just 39 remaining in the first half -- leading to Notre Dame's second touchdown in the 20-14 win.

**West Virginia:** With the score tied at 14, **Courtney Watson** tackles punter Mark Fazzolari at the WVU 16-yard line following a high snap to set up the go-ahead TD three plays later. **Getherall** scores the fifth of five consecutive Irish TDs with a 73-yard punt return and a 42-14 lead in the victory.

**Air Force:** With the game tied 28-28 and the Falcons lining up for a potential game-winning field goal from 28 yards, **Earl** comes up with his second blocked kick of the season as time expires in the fourth quarter -- sending the game into overtime in the 34-31 Notre Dame victory.

**Boston College:** With a tenuous 21-10 lead over the Eagles and less than two minutes remaining in the third quarter, **Setta** lines up for a FG but instead takes a pitch from holder **Adam Tibble** -- who is tackled just before pitching to Setta --and runs untouched into the end zone for a five-yard TD run and a 28-10 lead.

**Rutgers:** The Irish convert a fake FG for the second consecutive week, as **Setta** takes a direct snap from **John Crowther** and connects with FB **Tom Lopienski** for a 25-yard TD in the first quarter. Leading 24-17 in the third quarter, **Chad DeBolt** recovers another **Givens** blocked punt -- followed two plays later by a 25-yard TD pass from **Matt LoVecchio** to **Javin Hunter** and a two-TD lead.

**USC:** Notre Dame takes a 14-7 lead 17:35 into the game on the strength of a pair of blocked punts by **David Givens** and **Chad DeBolt** -- both of which set up short drives of 40 and 50 yards.



**FUTURE IRISH FOOTBALL SCHEDULES**

**2002**  
**Sept. 7 PURDUE**  
**Sept. 14 MICHIGAN**  
 Sept. 21 at Michigan State  
**Oct. 5 STANFORD**  
**Oct. 12 PITTSBURGH**  
 Oct. 19 at Air Force  
 Oct. 26 at Florida State  
**Nov. 2 BOSTON COLLEGE**  
 Nov. 9 vs. Navy (site TBA)  
**Nov. 23 RUTGERS**  
 Nov. 30 at USC

**2003**  
 Sept. 13 at Michigan  
**Sept. 20 MICHIGAN STATE**  
 Sept. 27 at Purdue  
**Oct. 4 WAKE FOREST**  
 Oct. 11 at Pittsburgh  
**Oct. 18 USC**  
 Oct. 25 at Boston College  
**Nov. 1 FLORIDA STATE**  
 Nov. 8 **NAVY**  
**Nov. 15 BYU**  
 Nov. 22 at Syracuse  
 Nov. 29 at Stanford

**2004**  
**Sept. 11 MICHIGAN**  
 Sept. 18 at Michigan State  
**Sept. 25 WASHINGTON**  
**Oct. 2 PURDUE**  
**Oct. 9 STANFORD**  
 Oct. 16 vs. Navy (site TBA)  
**Oct. 23 BOSTON COLLEGE**  
 Oct. 30 at BYU  
 Nov. 6 at Tennessee  
**Nov. 13 PITTSBURGH**  
 Nov. 27 at USC

• Here's a comparison between the '99 and '00 Irish special teams in the NCAA statistics:

1999	2000
21st at 23.1	Kickoff Returns 3rd at 24.9
17th at 12.5	Punt Returns 12th at 15.1
64th at 35.2	Net Punting 10th at 38.4

**TWO-SPORT STANDOUTS**

Cornerback **Shane Walton** -- less than two years removed from earning all-BIG EAST honors as a freshman forward on the '98 Irish men's soccer team -- entered the 2000 season as Notre Dame's starter at right cornerback and finished with 29 tackles, one tackle for a loss, two interceptions -- including a 60-yard INT return for a touchdown against Purdue's Drew Brees -- and three passes deflected. Walton joined the Irish football squad in the spring of '99 and saw action in three games in the secondary during the '99 season. He played in nine games overall with 61 appearances on special teams, earning his second Notre Dame monogram in as many years and in as many sports.

While Walton underwent a less traditional soccer-to-football transition, fifth-year **Matt McNew** made the more natural switch from soccer player to placekicker. After exhausting his four years of eligibility with the Irish men's soccer team, McNew tried out in the '00 spring season and was invited to join the team in the fall. In his first collegiate football game, **McNew** boomed five kickoffs for the Irish against Texas A&M, including three kickoff touchbacks. His 59 kickoffs in '00 resulted in average opponent starting position at the 25.9-yard line. Nearly half of his KOs resulted in drives starting at or behind the 25-yard line, while only seven percent (four of 59) ended with opponents starting with better field position than 35-yard line. Those four KOs were a squib kick just before halftime vs. Stanford (43-yard line), a failed onside kick vs. Air Force (43-yard line), an opponent season-high 36-yard return by Rutgers' Dennis Thomas (41-yard line) and a 33-yard return by Southern California's Frank Strong (38-yard line).

Walk-on **Chad DeBolt** made 72 special teams appearances in '00 -- including a season-high 13 vs. USC -- and was one of just four walkons on the usual travel list. He recovered a blocked punt vs. Rutgers and blocked a punt vs. USC -- both of which led to Irish TDs.

DeBolt also stars for the Notre Dame men's lacrosse team which advanced to the NCAA Final Four in 2001. The Waterloo, N.Y., native played in all 16 games for the Irish this season recording one goal, while scooping up 60 ground balls. For his career he has one goal and 118 ground balls.

**THE 2000 NCAA STATS**

NCAA stat rankings for Notre Dame (top 50 for team ranks):

<b>Team Rankings</b>	<b>Notre Dame</b>	<b>Individual Rankings</b>	<b>Notre Dame</b>
Rushing Offense .....	14th at 213.5	All-Purpose Yards .....	Julius Jones
Passing Offense .....	132.2		48th at 116.90
Total Offense .....	345.7	Kickoff Returns .....	Julius Jones
Scoring Offense .....	29th at 31.3		4th at 28.47
Passing Efficiency .....	17th at 136.97	Punt Returns .....	Joey Getherall
Rushing Defense, yards .....	147.6		8th at 16.33
Passing Defense, yards .....	44th at 206.2	Punting .....	Joey Hildbold
Total Defense .....	353.8		37th at 40.93
Scoring Defense .....	34th at 20.5		
Net Punting .....	10th at 38.4		
Punt Returns .....	12th at 15.1		
Kickoff Returns .....	3rd at 24.9		
Turnover Margin .....	5th at 1.27		
	(+14 overall)		
Fumbles Lost .....	4th with 4		
Passes Had Intercepted .....	T2nd with 4		
Turnovers Lost .....	1st with 8		