



January 1, 1970

Texas 21, Notre Dame 17

Attendance - 72,000

Collegiate football's centennial season soon would come to a flashy end, and for the grand finale, the nation's eyes would focus upon Dallas and the 34th annual Cotton Bowl. For this Classic would become a dream matchup; Texas, ranked No. 1 and proclaimed national champions by President Richard Nixon, versus Notre Dame, the legendary gridiron powerhouse, making its first post-season appearance in 45 years.

This truly was to become one of the Classic's memorable games. The Longhorns were fresh from their famed 15-14 come-from-behind victory over No. 2 Arkansas, known best as "The Big Shootout." Texas was a perfect 10-0-0. Ninth-ranked Notre Dame carried an 8-1-1 mark to Dallas. But, more notably was the fact the only other time the Fighting Irish had gone bowling was in the 1925 Rose Bowl when the legendary Four Horsemen led the way to a 27-10 defeat of Stanford. Now, 45 years later, three of the surviving Four Horsemen would come to Texas to spread Irish lore for the bowl-starved Notre Dame loyalists.

The Irish had plenty of incentive to keep its perfect bowl record intact, and when Notre Dame jumped to a 10-0 lead, the game looked to have the makings of the centennial season's most colossal upset. The Longhorns won the toss and elected to kick. In trotted quarterback Joe Theismann to direct the Irish on a 72-yard march up the field en route to Scott Hempel's 26-yard field goal. The 3-0 Notre Dame lead held up for the remainder of the first quarter. Then, 12 seconds into the second, Theismann unloaded the bomb. Just as he turned to throw, Tom Gatewood slipped behind Longhorn defender Danny Lester. The pass was on target and Gatewood went in for an easy 54-yard score.

FUN FACT #34

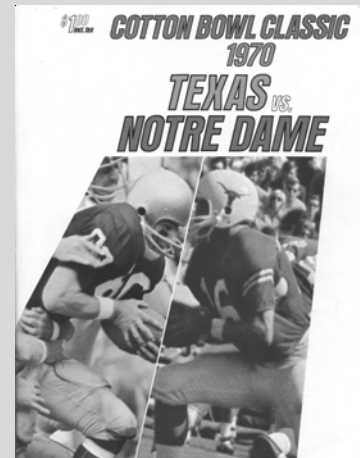
Notre Dame ended a 45-year post-season absence in 1970 when the Irish agreed to face No. 1 Texas. Three surviving members of the famed Four Horsemen traveled to Dallas intent on bringing the Irish a stroke of good luck. But, things didn't work out for Notre Dame. Texas rallied in the closing minutes to claim a 21-17 victory and secured the Longhorns' second national championship in six seasons.

Down 10-0, Texas roared back. James Street, the Longhorns' brilliant Wishbone quarterback, took control and in nine plays had Texas in the end zone. A 17-yard pass to Cotton Speyrer, another completion of 16 yards to Randy Peschel, and a 17-yard sprint by halfback Jim Bertelsen moved the Horns to the Notre Dame 10. Three plays later, Bertelsen crashed the goal line to cut the Irish lead back to three, 10-7.

That's the way it stood as the teams changed ends of the field to begin the fourth quarter. By then, however, Texas was on a roll, moving from its 23 to the Notre Dame 37. From there, Street and company continued to grind out the yardage with halfback Ted Koy gaining the last three to put the Horns ahead for the first time, 14-10. Now, it was Notre Dame's turn to move. Theismann started the drive at his 20 and ended it with a 24-yard scoring toss to halfback Jim Yoder. The Irish were back in front, 17-14, but not for long. The game clock was ticking with 6:47 left, enough time for one more Texas drive...and it was a classic. The march was good for 76 yards in 17 plays, and the key was a fourth down play at the Irish ten. Street had to hurry his throw under duress to Speyrer. The pass was short, but Speyrer stopped, turned back and made a diving catch just before the ball hit the ground at the two. Seconds later, reserve halfback Billy Dale plunged over from the one with just 1:08 left. With that, Texas wrapped up its second national championship.

Walter Robertson of the *Dallas Morning News* may have summed it up best when he wrote, "The initial temptation would be to rank the Texas-Arkansas game as tops for the first 100 years of college football, and then start the second centennial running with this one."

GAME SUMMARY



Notre Dame	3	7	0	7	-	17
Texas	0	7	0	14	-	21

First Quarter:

Notre Dame-Scott Hempel 26 FG, 8:41, 72 yards in 16 plays following opening kickoff

Second Quarter:

Notre Dame-Tom Gatewood 54 pass from Joe Theismann (Hempel kick), 14:40, 54 yards in 1 play following punt
Texas-Jim Bertelsen 1 run (Happy Feller kick), 3:22, 74 yards in 9 plays following kickoff

Fourth Quarter:

Texas-Ted Koy 3 run (Feller kick), 10:05, 77 yards in 18 plays following punt
Notre Dame-Jim Yoder 24 pass from Theismann (Hempel kick), 6:52, 80 yards in 8 plays following kickoff
Texas-Billy Dale 1 run (Feller kick), 1:08, 76 yards in 17 plays following kickoff

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

Bob Olson, Notre Dame
Steve Worster, Texas

COACHES

Ara Parseghian, Notre Dame
Darrell Royal, Texas

WEATHER

Cool, clear

GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATS	ND	Texas
First Downs	25	25
Rushing	13	19
Passing	12	6
Penalty	0	0
Rushes-Net Yards	43-189	67-331
Net Yards Passing	231	107
Passes	17-27-2	6-11-1
Total Plays	70	78
Total Net Yards	410	438
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-1
Penalties-Yards	2-10	1-5
Punts-Average	7-36.6	4-39.8

RUSHING
Notre Dame - Barz 10-49, Theismann 11-48, Huff 11-39, Allan 7-47, Yoder 2-4, Crotty 2-2.
Texas - Worster 20-155, Bertelsen 18-81, Koy 12-40, Street 10-31, Speyrer 1-13, Dale 6-11.

PASSING
Notre Dame - Theismann 17-27-2, 231 yards.
Texas - Street 6-11-1, 107 yards.

RECEIVING
Notre Dame - Gatewood 6-112, Allan 3-43, Crotty 3-8, Huff 2-15, Yoder 1-24, Poskon 1-22, Barz 1-7.
Texas - Speyrer 4-70, Bertelsen 1-21, Perschel 1-16.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
PUNTING
Notre Dame - deArrietta 6-39.7, Yoder 1-18.0.
Texas - Monzingo 4-39.8.