



AARON BERNSTEIN • IDS

Members of the IU football team pay tribute to Coach Terry Hooppner following his service Saturday afternoon outside of Assembly Hall.

Hep's final walk

Celebration of Life remembers coach, urges players to 'play 13'

By John Wustrow • jwustrow@indiana.edu

For IU football coach Terry Hooppner, the time to shine was on Saturdays.

So when planning his Celebration of Life, there was only one day his wife Jane said it should happen. It needed to be a Saturday.

"It's game day," Jane Hooppner told friends, family and IU fans who had come to Assembly Hall Saturday to remember her husband, who died Tuesday due to complications from a brain tumor.

After the ceremony, the celebration was taken to the west side of Assembly Hall where the funeral precession passed through the team, which was lined up with each player raising a helmet, while the Marching Hundred played the IU fight song.

"When I think of Coach Hep, I think of tremendous

courage," said former IU running back Anthony Thompson, who had served as Hooppner's pastor for the last 18 months. "As far as I know, he never complained about his illness or about his sickness."

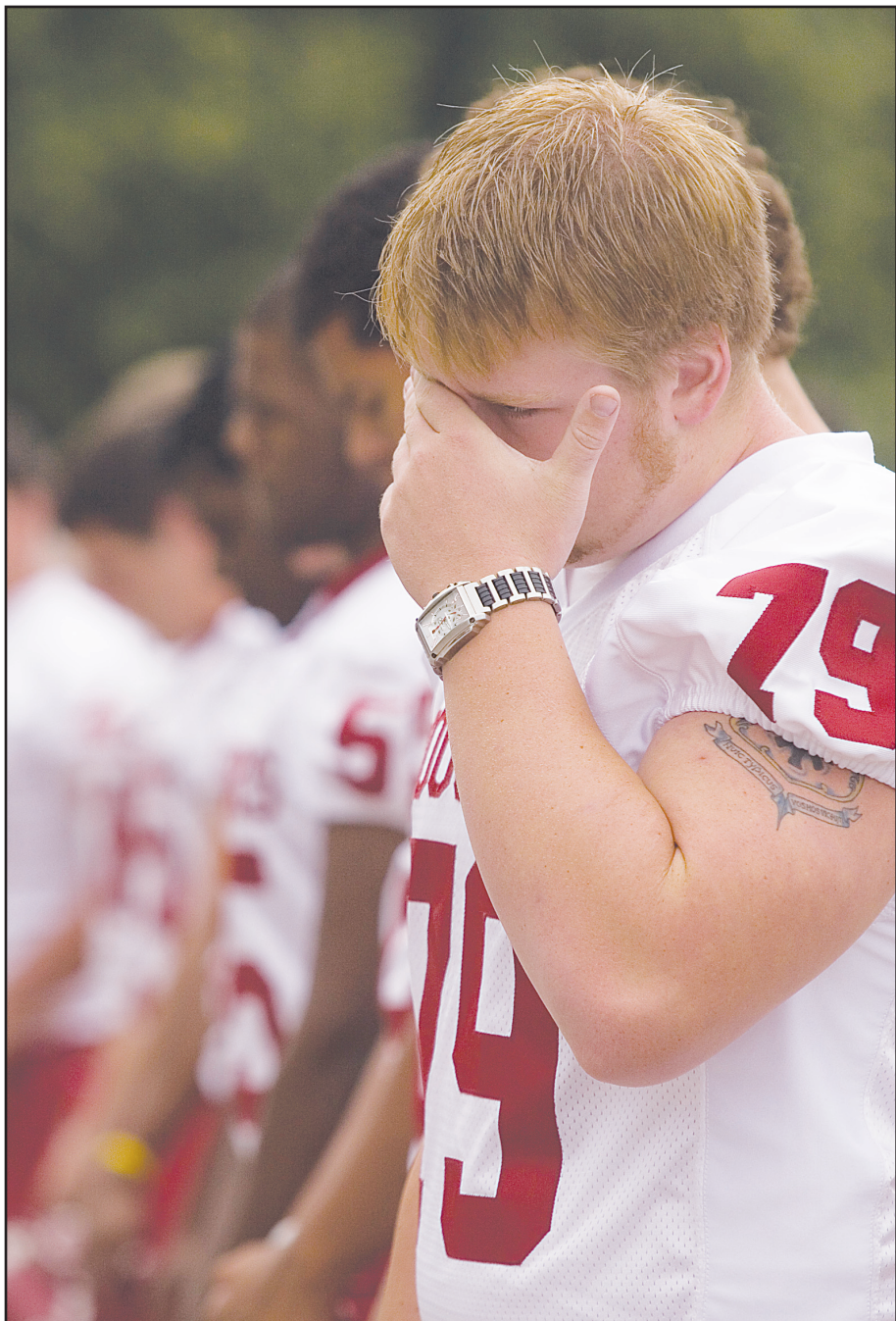
Thompson went on to say that he still sees Hooppner even after death.

"Yes he's still doing the walk," Thompson said. "He's walking in heaven, where the streets are paved with gold. Yes there is still the rock, that rock is Jesus Christ ... That rock can never be moved."

Thompson then put a red IU hat on his head and pointed to the players who were seated together.

"And my final comments I will say that Hep still wants you to follow him as he followed Christ," he said. "And I

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Freshman offensive lineman Cody Faulkner takes a moment following the service for Coach Terry Hooppner on Saturday afternoon outside Assembly Hall.



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Members of the IU football team walk from Memorial Stadium to the service for Coach Terry Hooppner on Saturday afternoon at Assembly Hall.



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Members of the IU Football Team line up following Coach Terry Hooppner's service Saturday afternoon at Assembly Hall.