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Indiana Has Its Way With OSU, 41-7

Cooper Unable To Hide His Disgust

By Mark Rea

John Cooper knows exactly what Thomas Paine meant when he wrote "These are the times that try men's souls."

A frustrated Cooper watched helplessly from the sidelines as Indiana thoroughly manhandled Ohio State Oct. 8, taking a 41-7 victory, the Hoosiers' first victory over the Buckeyes at home in 84 years.

After the game, Cooper wondered aloud about the fortitude of his players, challenging their pride in the Scarlet and Gray.

"To be honest with you, I think we've got too many players that are participating. I don't see a lot of competitors on this team," said Cooper, shaking his head.

"I don't see a lot of guys that get upset when they play like they did today. To me, that's the difference between participating and competing. I don't see too many competitors out there."

COOPER SAID HE is running out of explanations for his team's poor performances and is tired of making excuses for them.

"I don't know what else you can do," he said. "We went in pads every day this week. We had contact almost every day this week. We yelled at them. We challenged their pride."

"I don't know what else we can do to be truthful with you. We didn't play like we were ready. Maybe we weren't. I just don't know."

"I don't think I have ever been so puzzled about a team in all my life," Cooper continued. "I don't know what you have to do to get a team ready. I really don't want to sit here and rip our players, but you saw the game. I don't know what else I can do. I can't play. Our coaches can't play."

"We just have to get back and practice. What can you do? We're certainly not going to forfeit the rest of the games. We'll just go back to practicing and try to get better. That's the only thing I know how to do."

ABOUT THE ONLY bright spot for the Buckeyes during the afternoon was the play of junior tailback Jaymes Bryant. Subbing for the injured Carlos Snow, Bryant picked up 98 yards and the team's only touchdown of the day. And Bryant was about the only Buckeye who earned praise from Cooper after the game.

"I thought Jaymes Bryant did a nice job running the ball," the coach said. "But that was about it. Offensively, we turned the ball over five times. We got beat rather soundly."

Sophomore quarterback Greg Frey had his poorest day as commander of the Buckeye offense, completing just



Indiana junior tailback Anthony Thompson goes airborne for the first of his four touchdowns against Ohio State. Thompson rushed for 190 yards as the unbeaten Hoosiers soundly defeated the Buckeyes by a score of 41-7.

seven of 22 passes for 101 yards and no touchdowns. Frey also pitched four interceptions.

When asked if Frey was still nursing injuries suffered against LSU and Illinois, Cooper answered, "Hey, you're asking the wrong guy. If his arm is hurting him, he shouldn't be playing. But as far as I know, from what he tells us, there's nothing wrong with him."

"You saw the game as well as I did. All I know is that he threw the ball to the wrong-colored jersey. He threw four interceptions and a couple of them he threw to the wrong guy. I don't think he got sacked one time all day so you can't blame the rush."

ON HIS OWN behalf, Frey was willing to take the blame for his poor performance. "I tried to push the ball in a couple of times when I shouldn't

have," he said. "The line did block well and I had time. I just didn't get the job done."

When reporters asked Frey if he was playing with a sore arm, he answered, "It's not a problem."

While the Buckeyes were effectively stopping themselves on offense with turnovers and mistakes, the Hoosiers were busy capitalizing on those errors for their own gain.

Junior tailback Anthony Thompson ran like a man possessed, picking up 190 yards and setting a variety of Indiana records in the process. He scored four touchdowns to set an IU single-game record and also surpassed the school's single-season mark for most TDs and eclipsed the school career touchdown mark of 30 set by Jade Butcher from 1977 to 1980.

Thanks to Thompson and junior quarterback Dave Schnell, who completed 10 of 13 passes for 151 yards and two touchdowns, the Indiana offense piled up 471 yards in total offense. It marked the third time in five games that an Ohio State opponent had topped the 400-yard mark in total offense.

"**THEIR OFFENSIVE** line completely controlled the line of scrimmage and ran the ball right at us. They didn't do anything we hadn't worked on all week long. We played an eight-man front. They played a two tight end offense and we took a defensive back out and played another linebacker and they still ran the ball right down our throats. I thought we would at least slow them down a little bit, but we didn't seem to."

"There wasn't any question that Indiana was a better football team. No question whatsoever. They were clearly the better football team today. We now know that Indiana has a good offense and a good defense. I don't know about their kicking game because they didn't have to kick today. I think they punted the ball once the whole game."

"Heck, Pitt didn't beat us this bad!" Cooper added. "At least Pitt had to punt a couple of times."

With two losses in his first two Big Ten games, the first-year Buckeye head coach said he would go back to basics in an attempt to get the team prepared to play the rest of the season. But he admitted the task would be difficult, especially since the team's confidence level has taken direct hits from Illinois and Indiana.

"**I WOULDN'T HAVE** a lot of confidence either if I got my fanny kicked like these guys got theirs kicked today," he said. "How can you have confidence when you played the way we played today? And you can't give somebody confidence. Confidence comes from doing a good job and we didn't do a good job."

Cooper wondered aloud if some of his players are simply going through the motions. He berated freshman linebacker Patrick Rogan on the sidelines after Rogan seemingly showed some extra exuberance after making a tackle.

"That wasn't enthusiasm," Cooper said flatly. "Pushing people down and that kind of stuff isn't what we're looking for. That's not how we coach. That's false enthusiasm."

"Hey, we challenged their pride before this game," Cooper said. "I showed them highlight films of some of the great Buckeye teams hoping that would do something for them. It should be a great honor to play at Ohio State and we've got guys who are wallowing around."



OSU sophomore Vinnie Clark (7) separates the football from Indiana tight end Tim Jorden (86) while Buckeye teammate John Sullivan (57) comes up for support. Clark registered seven tackles in the game, the third-highest total on the team.

With 41-7 Win IU Ends Drought

By Mark Rea

The year was 1904.

Teddy Roosevelt was in the White House. Ten nations attended the Summer Olympics in St. Louis. Jack Chesbro won 41 games for the second-place New York Yankees.

E.M. Sweetland was head football coach at Ohio State and, en route to a 6-5 season, his Buckeyes lost to Indiana in Bloomington by a score of 8-0.

Eighty-four years later, Indiana finally defeated Ohio State in Bloomington again, using 190 yards and four touchdowns from junior tailback Anthony Thompson and four interceptions on defense to post a 41-7 shellacking of the Buckeyes.

"There wasn't any question that Indiana was the better football team. No question whatsoever," said first-year OSU head coach John Cooper.

"Maybe they're a great team or we're pretty pathetic on defense. It's probably a little combination of both. I thought we were a little better than Rice and Northwestern (two of Indiana's other victims this season) but, right now, I guess I have my doubts."

Thompson also single-handedly put the game out of reach in the first half, scoring all four of his touchdowns and running for 120 of his yards. In the process of his performance, he broke three school records — most TDs scored in a game (4), most TDs scored in a season (14) and most TDs scored in a career (31).

"He's a good back. He's an excellent football player," Cooper said of Thompson. "He runs north and south, he holds onto the football and he's always falling forward."

Nearly overshadowed by Thompson's performance was a standout day by Indiana junior quarterback Dave Schnell. One of the more underrated passers in the Big Ten, Schnell completed 10 of 13 attempts for 151 yards and two touchdowns.

On defense, the Hoosiers held OSU quarterback Greg Frey to his worst day as a starter. Frey completed only seven of 22 passes for 101 yards. He also pitched four interceptions.

According to Indiana head coach Bill Mallory, his team's game plan was a simple one.

"Our offensive line controlled the line and we took it to them," said Mallory, formerly an assistant coach at Ohio State. "Going in, we thought we could dominate. I'm not surprised by the score. We thought we could pound on them."

Schnell agreed. "Last year, we were a little unsure, but this year we knew we could beat them."

The game was played before a sellout crowd of 52,133 in Bloomington. Indiana served notice right from the opening kickoff that it could move the ball almost at will against the Buckeyes.

Starting at their own 31, the Hoosiers marched downfield with Schnell tossing outlet passes and Thompson blowing through holes in the OSU defensive line. However, the Buckeyes stiffened on a fourth-down play when Indiana attempted a fake field goal and got only two of the necessary three yards.

Blessed with good field position at its own 36-yard line, Ohio State's offense

Continued On Page 11

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*Tailback Says Fans Don't See His Mistakes***Bryant Not Pleased With Performance**

By Mark Rea

Most Ohio State fans who watched Indiana's 41-7 thumping of the Buckeyes on Oct. 8 figure the only bright spot in the loss was the running of junior tailback Jaymes Bryant.

After all, the 6-0, 221-pounder from Harrisburg, Pa., played an excellent game in relief of the injured Carlos Snow by accounting for nearly half of his team's total yardage with 98 yards and one touchdown. For his efforts he was named *Big Bear Buckeye of the Week*.

But, to hear Bryant tell it, his performance was anything but outstanding.

"I wasn't happy with it," he said following the game. "I made my share of mistakes again this week, things that we've been working on in practice. I wasn't happy with my performance at all."

Despite the glowing statistics when running with the ball, Bryant said his performance when he did not have possession of the football made him upset.

"Sometimes I'm supposed to block one guy and, when I see another coming, I take him," he said. "That's just an instinct. But I've got to tell myself that the first guy is not necessarily the one to block."

Bryant added that he wasn't totally satisfied with the way he ran the ball either.

"I made some good runs, but I made my share of mistakes, too," he said. "I didn't make the right reads and stuff like that that could have meant even more yardage for the team. I guess it looked a lot better than it was."

"Every time I got the ball, I was trying to do what I do best — run. The line was blocking and everything was going pretty well. But sometimes, even though I had a couple of good runs, the fans fail to see the parts where I messed up. I just made the wrong reads a couple of times. I think I'm getting better each week but I've still got a long way to go."

Bryant's rushing statistics were by far his best this season. And, the 98 yards on the ground were the most by him since he topped the 100-yard mark three times in 1986.

Ohio State head coach John Cooper singled out Bryant's play in an otherwise dismal performance by the Buckeye offense.

"Offensively, our passing game was awful," Cooper said. "We turned the ball over five times and got beat rather soundly. I thought Jaymes Bryant did a nice job running the ball. He's only been at that position for two weeks now and I thought he did a pretty nice job."

Then Cooper proclaimed Bryant the team's number one tailback.

"I think he earned that today," the head coach said. "Let's face it. He did a real good job today and I think he's earned the right to be number one. He'll be number one until someone else takes it away from him."

The return to the Scarlet and Gray spotlight is another peak in Bryant's career at Ohio State which is nearly as much of a roller coaster as the Buckeyes' 1988 season.

As a freshman, the powerful tailback the other Buckeyes call "Dance" included a 145-yard effort against Utah among his three 100-yard efforts. His rushing yardage total in 1986 of 656 was the second biggest total for a freshman in OSU history behind Archie Griffin's 867 yards in 1972.

However, as a sophomore last season, Bryant found himself the odd man out when former head coach Earle Bruce went with Vince Workman at tailback and George Cooper at fullback. Bryant managed to start three games when Workman eventually moved to wide receiver, but the emergence of then-freshman Carlos Snow dropped him back on the depth chart again. As a result, Bryant finished with just 313 yards, less than half his freshman total.

Then, when Cooper was hired to coach the Buckeyes, the stockpile of tailbacks caused Bryant to switch to the fullback position. He admittedly had a tough time with the new offensive system's blocking schemes at fullback and longed for a return to his old position.

He got his wish when, in rapid fire succession, Workman was ruled ineligible for dealing with a sports agent, Snow went down with a knee injury and top backup Marc Hicks sprained his ankle.

So, the first week Bryant was back at tailback, he led the team in rushing in the 31-12 loss to Illinois. An extra week of practice helped him immensely and, when Snow was injured again against Indiana, Bryant showcased his running talents.

Bryant said the main thing for the team to do now was to find the good points in the Indiana game and try to build upon that performance. That means getting into the game mentally as well as physically, he added.

"We have to work on the mental aspects of the game as much as anything," Bryant said. "I'm willing to work real hard to turn this thing around and I think the team has to work hard together. I think that's our main problem. I think we're physically conditioned and ready to play in that way, but we still have to get there mentally."



Buckeye tailback Jaymes Bryant (41) found the going a little rough here against Indiana defenders Doug Schlereth (54) and Erick Coleman (6). But Bryant broke away enough to lead OSU in rushing with 98 yards.

Same Questions Beginning To Dog Ohio State's Quarterback

By Mark Rea

Greg Frey must be getting tired of answering the same questions.

- "Greg, what happened today?"
- "Greg, how can you explain the problems on offense this year?"
- "Greg, is there something wrong with your arm?"
- "Greg, do you worry about losing the starting position?"

Those are some of the more frequent queries of the sophomore signal-caller out of Cincinnati St. Xavier. But, no matter how many times he serves up the same answers to the same questions, he always tries to deal with them honestly.

"You know, I'm the quarterback and I take the blame," Frey said following the Buckeyes' 41-7 loss to Big Ten rival Indiana. "I thought we were ready to go but things went against us early and seemed to just fall apart after that."

Frey suffered his worst day as an OSU quarterback against the Hoosiers, completing only seven of 22 pass attempts for 101 yards. He failed to throw a touchdown pass for the first time this season and pitched a career-high four interceptions.

"I tried to push the ball in there a couple of times I shouldn't have," Frey

said, trying to explain the interceptions. "The line did its job. It blocked well today and I had time to throw. I just didn't have it today. I didn't get the job done and that's always the bottom line. Twice this year, I've gotten the job done and three times now I haven't. That's why we're sitting here with a 2-3 record."

Indiana strong safety Marc Ferry, who picked off one of the four interceptions, offered a reason for Frey's hardship against the Hoosiers.

"He has only started four or five games and he's only a sophomore, so I think that was a factor," Ferry said. "A lot of times, he had time to throw but couldn't get it off. We had good initial coverage because he waited back there every time to check out his receivers."

Frey's performances have been steadily slipping since his excellent game against Syracuse. In that contest, he completed 12 of 17 attempts (70.6 percent) for 141 yards and one touchdown. More importantly, he threw no interceptions.

Since that time, he has connected on just 58 of 128 attempts (45.3 percent) for 726 yards and two touchdowns while throwing seven interceptions. In Big Ten play alone, Frey has completed only 25 of 62 attempts (40.3 percent) for

303 yards and one touchdown with five interceptions.

The obvious possibility is that Frey is still nursing a sore arm which had held him out of various practice sessions this season. Head coach John Cooper has repeatedly said that Frey "doesn't have the strongest arm in the world" and he has to be rested periodically throughout the week.

When Cooper was asked after the Indiana game if Frey was favoring his arm, he answered, "You're asking the wrong guy. You saw the game as well as I did. My answer to that is if he's got a sore arm, he shouldn't be playing."

Frey said an injury was not the reason for his poor showings, but stopped short of denying the arm was indeed sore.

"It's not a problem," he said.

"I don't really have any explanation for it," Frey said of his subpar performances. "We're not playing well on offense right now and I don't know why. I wish I did. I guess it's just a combination of things because I don't think any one thing could make us play this bad."

Despite the consecutive losses, though, Cooper said he has no plans to replace Frey as the starting quarterback.

Hoosiers Coast To Easy Win Over Bucks

Continued From Page 4

went on the attack. However, just three plays into the drive, Frey threw for tight end Jeff Ellis, who had the ball bounce off his hands and into the grasp of Hoosier linebacker Willie Bates.

Indiana wasted no time cashing in on the turnover, taking just under three minutes to move 54 yards. The big play in the drive was a 25-yard run by Hoosiers' fullback Cal Miller. Two plays later, Thompson vaulted into the end zone for the first touchdown of the day. IU place-kicker Pete Stoyanovich ran his Big Ten record consecutive PAT string to 81 to make the score 7-0 with 6:16 remaining in the first quarter.

The Buckeyes got good field position again after sophomore Bobby Olive returned the kickoff 31 yards to the OSU 37. But the offense sputtered again, gaining only 18 yards in six plays. Also during the drive, sophomore tailback Carlos Snow was shaken up after a hard tackle and left the game. It was later reported that Snow pulled a groin muscle.

Ohio State punted to the Hoosiers and Indiana's offense immediately went back to the attack. The Buckeye defense didn't help matters any, getting slapped with a piling-on personal foul and then jumping offside on a third-and-one play. But Schnell and Thompson did the rest without any help from OSU. In the seven-play drive, Schnell completed two passes for 26 yards while Thompson rushed four times for 35 yards, the last six for a

touchdown. Stoyanovich added the extra point for a 14-0 first-quarter lead.

Things began to snowball on the Buckeyes' offense. Less than two minutes into the second quarter, Frey was intercepted again, this time by strong safety Marc Ferry. Again, the Hoosiers let Thompson be the workhorse as he carried the ball six times in the nine-play drive. He scored a touchdown from two yards out that was nullified by a holding penalty and then came right back on the very next play and scored again. Stoyanovich's kick was good again, giving the Hoosiers a 21-0 lead.

OSU went back on offense but managed just 16 yards on five plays before being forced to punt again. When Indiana got its hands on the ball, it turned once more to Thompson. He didn't disappoint the Hoosiers, finishing off the 13-play drive by carrying the ball on every one of the last five plays. His four-yard TD run gave him his fourth score of the afternoon and, after Stoyanovich tacked on another PAT, Indiana had built a 28-0 lead at halftime.

Ohio State's only chance to get back in the game was to play much better on offense and hope that the Hoosiers were content with their big first half. As things turned out, neither happened.

"We came out in the second half like it was 0-0," said Indiana wide receiver Rob Turner.

The Buckeyes' first possession of the third quarter ended abruptly when Frey's pass was tipped four times before settling into the arms of cornerback Erick Coleman.

Then, as if to accentuate the first half, Schnell came out gunning in the second half. On first down, OSU linebacker Srecko Zizakovic got to the IU quarterback for a sack, but two plays later, Schnell caught the Buckeyes in another blitz and threw a 31-yard touchdown strike to a wide-open Turner. Stoyanovich made his 85th straight PAT to give Indiana a 35-0 lead.

The Buckeyes' offense finally put together a scoring drive in the third period. Junior tailback Jaymes Bryant, who gained 98 yards during the game, was the workhorse of the drive, rushing six times, including a six-yard touchdown run. During the scoring march, Frey also completed passes to Ellis, Bernard Edwards and Bill Matlock, his first three completions after six straight misses and three interceptions.

OSU had one more chance to get points near the end of the third quarter, but the drive fizzled on fourth down at the Indiana 14-yard line when Frey's pass was knocked down by Ferry.

Meanwhile, Indiana had one more score in its game plan before Mallory began wholesale offensive substitutions. Schnell caught the Buckeyes blitzing once again and fired a 38-yard strike to Turner who had two steps on his nearest defender.

The win upped Indiana's unbeaten record to 4-0-1 this season and gave them a 2-0 conference mark. At the same time, the Buckeyes slid to 2-3 overall and 0-2 in the Big Ten. According to Cooper, that all but knocks them out of the Rose Bowl picture.

"I don't think we're in the Big Ten race the way we're playing now and with the first two losses," he said. "I don't think we can go to the Rose Bowl with two losses this year. Michigan isn't going to lose two games."



Senior defensive end Derek MacCready (93) tries to fight off a block from an Indiana lineman during OSU's loss to the Hoosiers. MacCready tallied six tackles in the game before leaving with a back injury.



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The View From 15th and High

By Frank L. Moskowitz, BSB Publisher

Coaches Must Take Some Of Blame For Losses

The Ohio State coaching staff may need to re-evaluate the way it is doing business this season. When a team like Ohio State is blown out in three out of five games, something is wrong. The team is either not mentally or physically prepared to do battle on Saturday and the responsibility for that falls squarely on the shoulders of the coaching staff.

Just as some points of reference, the last time Ohio State lost three games in a season by 19 points or more was in 1947. Earle Bruce was in his eighth year at OSU before his team suffered a loss by that margin. The type of whippings the Buckeyes have been taking are the type of whippings that Buckeye fans are used to seeing OSU dish out and I'm not sure how long the fickle faithful are going to stand for this.

I understand that the talent is

supposedly not there this year. We've been prepared for a rebuilding year. But the Buckeyes aren't even competitive. Northwestern and Rice did as well or better against Indiana than the Buckeyes. Are we to believe that Ohio State has fallen to the level of those traditional doormats?

This is Ohio State. Great players graduate every year. And great players are supposed to step forward and replace them. Ohio State may have been 6-4-1 last year but the Bucks were in every game but one last season (granted it was against the Hoosiers).

There are those who claim that recruiting suffered the last few years under Bruce. But you can't tell me that over the last three or four years as a whole, Illinois or Indiana have out-recruited Ohio State.

Besides, there was enough talent on this team to defeat Syracuse and LSU.

Surely there is enough talent to at least be competitive with an Illinois or an Indiana.

Yes, injuries have been a problem. But injuries are part of college football. You can't dwell on them. Back in 1985, the Buckeyes had to do without Keith Byars for most of the season. I hardly think Carlos Snow, as potentially great as he may be, can be considered in the Keith Byars class yet. Still, the Bucks' worst defeat that year was by 10 points to Michigan and the Buckeyes were able to upset top-ranked Iowa along the way.

And I understand that this is a new staff and a new system. But having a new staff and system didn't stop Illinois, under first-year coach John Mackovic, from being a much better prepared team than the Buckeyes when the Illini crushed the Bucks, 31-12. If the Buckeyes can't digest the changes all at once, then don't implement them all at once.

No, this Ohio State team may not be the 1968 national champions. And this may be a rebuilding year. And the Bucks may be battered and bruised. But there is no excuse for the Buckeyes not to be at least competitive every game.

I have been one of John Cooper's bigger backers. And I think that he is entitled to a couple of years to bring in his players and his system. What concerns me is that if things continue the way they are going, Cooper may not be around long enough to enjoy the fruits of his labors. Earle Bruce was exiled to Northern Iowa for sins not nearly as great as ones we've seen committed in the last few weeks.

Cooper has assembled one of the finest coaching staffs in the country. I was happy to see him bring in so many fresh and talented faces. However, there is only one ex-Buckeye, Fred Pagac, on the staff. Last year, for instance, Bruce, along with Lenny Willis, Pagac, Randy Hart and Bill Conley were all former Bucks.

I wonder if the new staff does not understand, or is unable to convey, the idea of Buckeye pride. After what Earle Bruce called (and I think he believed it) the darkest day in his long association with OSU football, I would think Buckeye pride would have been enough to keep Ohio State from being blown out by Indiana again, from being blown out for the third time in four

weeks.

In the past, this would have been the week when Woody Hayes would have been called in to talk about this very pride. With Hayes gone now, maybe it's Archie Griffin who needs to come in and rally the troops.

There is plenty of football left to be played. The staff is going to have to turn things around in a hurry, however. And the events of this past week are just going to make recruiting that much tougher. Indiana has always gotten its share of players from Ohio. Now the Hoosiers are going to be battling with OSU for more of the cream of the crop.

Come on, John Cooper. Let's get things rolling.

ON THE bright side would be the play of Jaymes Bryant. It's easy to forget that just a couple of seasons back, Bryant was being compared to the man whose number he wears, Keith Byars. And the 6-8, 221-pound junior out of Harrisburg, Pa., was back to doing his Byars imitation against the Hoosiers, finding the holes and getting extra yardage on second effort, carrying Indiana players with him as he went along.

It is interesting to note Bryant's comments after the game. Despite gaining 98 yards on 20 carries, Bryant was unhappy with his performance because he missed his blocking assignments on several plays.

This may be a major breakthrough for the obviously talented Bryant. He had become notorious as a poor practice player and as someone who did not learn the plays well. When these shortcomings cost him playing time, he seemed to blame it on the coaches. This understanding of the need to do more than just run the ball on game day may be the key that unlocks the true potential of Bryant.

THE OTHER positive I saw coming out of the game was the much improved play of the offensive line. This group has received its share of criticism from me in the last couple of weeks. Bryant had some good holes to slip through this time, however, and the pass protection was solid.

Unfortunately, while Greg Frey had the time, on this day anyway, he didn't have the touch.

Let's face it. If your field general is struggling, chances are the team is going to struggle also.

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Free Admission To:

Spring Practice Game, Quarterback Club Meetings, "Meet The Team Day" in August. Buckeye Boosters sponsors five away trips plus a bowl trip, including flights to Iowa and Minnesota and bus trips to Pittsburgh, Indiana and Michigan State.



Annual Membership: \$25 Family _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Amount Included _____

Mail check to: Buckeye Boosters, 1855 E. Dublin-Granville Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43229.

Questions? Call our office at 614/431-2323