

OHIO STATE VS. PURDUE

Fate Rests In Buckeyes' Hands

Purdue Going Wide Left Keeps OSU On Right Path

By MARK REA
Buckeye Sports Bulletin Managing Editor

Ohio State may not be the latest version of the Kardiak Kids, but there is no doubt that the Buckeyes continue to specialize in heart-palpating victories.

The latest came Nov. 15 before the second-largest Ohio Stadium crowd ever as OSU outlasted Big Ten rival Purdue, 16-13 in overtime.

With the win, the Buckeyes preserved a chance to defend their national championship in the Sugar Bowl and also put themselves on a collision course with archrival Michigan for the undisputed Big Ten championship. The Wolverines haven't had an outright conference title since 1997, and OSU hasn't enjoyed one since 1984.

"Quite frankly, I haven't heard much talk at all about the BCS standings or which bowl we might be going to," said OSU head coach Jim Tressel. "What I heard talked about in the locker room is that outright championship we haven't had since 1984. I think that's what our players seem to be focusing in on."

If recent history is any indicator, the 100th renewal of the rivalry known simply as "The Game" will likely be decided by a touchdown or less.

Beginning with Ohio State's 26-20 victory over the Wolverines in 2001 — a win that snapped a 3-12-1 string against their archrivals — it seems as though some kind of new rule has been written, mandating the Buckeyes play close



JEFF BREHM

JUST A BIT OUTSIDE — Purdue kicker Ben Jones (35, clutching head) reacts as his potential game-tying overtime field goal sails a foot wide to the left.

games.

Including that 2001 win over Michigan, 15 of OSU's last 27 games have been decided by seven points or less, and the team's record is a dazzling 13-2 in those contests.

"What can you say anymore?" said OSU cornerback Dustin Fox, who led the Buckeyes with 10 tackles and got just enough of a hand on Purdue kicker Ben Jones' 37-yard field-goal attempt in over-

time to help it sail just left of the upright. "We've been in so many of these situations, we just don't panic. We have confidence that someone will step up and make a play, and that's usually what happens."

Fox's kick-altering leap in overtime allowed the Buckeyes to gain a third victory this season in a game in which they scored no offensive touchdowns.

They piled up 351 yards in total

offense against a stout Purdue defense that was allowing about 70 yards less than that on average but had to settle for a pair of Mike Nugent field goals in regulation and a defensive touchdown.

Although it gave up 355 total yards to the Boilermakers, the OSU defense did what it needed to do when it had to. It thwarted two of Purdue's three red-zone scoring opportunities, caused the only two turnovers in the game and shut the

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OHIO STATE VS. PURDUE

Boilers out in overtime.

"We did what we had to do," said defensive tackle Tim Anderson. "We had to stop them. Simple as that."

Most of the offense in the game for the Buckeyes was provided by Nugent, who booted field goals from 26 and 52 yards in regulation before nailing the game winner in OT from 36 yards out.

But there was no doubt that a principal weapon — both for the offense and the defense — was the brilliant punting of senior B.J. Sander.

Kicking 10 times in the game, Sander averaged 41.3 yards per punt. But more importantly, he dropped seven of those kicks inside Purdue's 20-yard line, forcing the Boilermakers to face a long field for much of the day. In fact, it was a Sander punt that he killed at the 5-yard line that led to the defensive score.

For his efforts in the game, Sander was named *Big Bear Buckeye of the Week*.

Classic Heavyweight Bout

For much of the game, Ohio State and Purdue fought like a pair of heavyweight contenders with one landing a hard punch before the other countered with a haymaker of his own.

The Boilermakers drew first blood with their first offensive possession, marching 53 yards in 12 plays. It was their most diverse drive of the game as they alternated passing and running the ball on each of their first 10 plays from scrimmage.

But when the Buckeyes stuffed tailback Jerod Void on two straight runs, Purdue had to settle for a 45-yard field goal from Jones for an early 3-0 lead.

Ohio State answered later in the first quarter, getting the biggest play of the afternoon when Michael Jenkins beat Purdue cornerback Jacques Reeves in single coverage and gathered in a 60-yard pass from Craig Krenzel on a third-and-8 play.

The pass was reminiscent of the Krenzel-to-Jenkins connection that produced the game-winning touchdown against the Boilermakers last season. But this time, the Buckeyes couldn't cash in. They pushed only as far as the PU 5 before settling for a 26-yard field goal from Nugent.

Purdue immediately answered, thanks to good field position provided by Void's 41-yard kickoff return to near midfield. But the Boilers couldn't do anything with their good field position either, and Jones' 47-yard field goal gave them a 6-3 lead.

The Buckeyes got excellent field position again near the end of the first half, using a short Purdue punt to set up shop at the PU 37-yard line. But after Krenzel scrambled for 17 yards on first down, the drive bogged down. In fact, it went backward from there thanks to two penalties, one for unsportsmanlike conduct on Krenzel, who argued with officials about what he considered to be a latte hit after he had handed the ball off.

"Apparently I said some stuff that I didn't think I said," the OSU quarterback said later.

Nevertheless, Nugent came on to fire through a 52-yard field goal, tying the

score at 6. It marked the Ohio State kicker's third career attempt from 50 yards or more, and he's made them all.

Down To Crunch Time

With the defense slowly gaining a foothold on Purdue's offense, and using Sander as a weapon, the Buckeyes played field position throughout much of the second half.

When the Boilermakers got their first possession of the fourth quarter, the score was still knotted at 6, but they were backed up at their own 5-yard line.

Three plays into the possession, Boilers QB Kyle Orton was finally corralled by the OSU defense. Will Smith and Anderson broke through and pressured the Purdue signal caller just enough that he lost control of the football. That's when backup defensive end Mike Kudla flashed into the scene and fell on the loose ball in the end zone, giv-

ing the Buckeyes their first lead of the day at 13-6.

With 6:48 remaining in the game, Orton marched his team 92 yards for the tying score. This time, there was no diversity — just Orton in the shotgun making plays for the Boilermakers.

He converted a big third-and-10 on the drive with a 12-yard pass to wideout Anthony Chambers then found Void over the middle for a 28-yard gain on the next play.

Orton also scrambled for 18 yards on an important second-and-5 near midfield then later found backup receiver Kyle Ingraham for another 18 yards.

Then it was time for some innovation by Purdue head coach Joe Tiller. In what appeared to be a version of the old Statue of Liberty play, Orton faked a

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MIRACLE MOTOR MART

(PART TWO)

THE JACKSON SEVEN

In the previous issues, I wrote to you about my coming here in 1978 to play football for **Woody Hayes'** and then **Earle Bruce's** Buckeyes and how I had become awestruck by all the wonderful traditions that Ohio State University had to offer. I spoke about how I had come from a **family** of eleven children and how Ohio State had become an extension of my **family** back home in Akron. Being from a large **family** I understood the concept of everyone working together for the common good, setting goals and striving to achieve those goals for the betterment of the **family**. I wrote about all of the hard work that it takes to become part of the **OSU football family**. The words and the work become lessons for life ... they are the bricks and mortar that each player uses to build his future. Such have they been for me.

In the last two issues I also introduced you to members of our team and family at **MIRACLE MOTOR MART** ... **Luther Henson** and **Bob Sarafov**. Luther is a former teammate of mine from Ohio State who went on to play football in the NFL for the **New England Patriots** and **Bob Sarafov** came to the United States as a child with his father, mother and older brother. Bob joined our family in 1999 and since then has helped us become a driving force in central Ohio.

The next member of our team, **TONY JACKSON**, also knows a little bit about the concept of family, being the fifth child in a family of seven children. Being number 5 out of 7, Tony learned early in life how to survive and prosper by working together with his siblings as opposed to constantly asking, "What's in it for me?" Tony also knows a little bit about **OSU football family and traditions**. You see, his first cousin is the aforementioned **Luther Henson** (OSU Class of 1980), and his wife of twelve years, **Carla**, is a long-time employee of **Ohio State University**. Tony has been a hard-working, responsible, reliable and dedicated member of the **Miracle Motor Mart family** since 1999. He and his wife Carla, along with their two sons, make their home right here in Columbus.

Luther, Bob and Tony are all true **team players** and members of the family. Luther, Bob, Tony and I would like to invite you all to come in and give us the opportunity to **earn** your business on your next used car purchase. We can sell or lease, whatever your need is. We carry all types of vehicles (SUVs, trucks, sedans, sports cars), in all price ranges and for your convenience we can arrange your financing right here at our dealership ... for every type of credit situation. Over the years we have earned the business of many former Buckeyes, including **Cal Murray, Ben Lee, Al Washington, Cliff Belmer and Scoonic Penn**. We are very proud of the fact that 43% of our business is from **repeat customers and referrals**. Whatever your vehicle and financing needs are, please give us a call.



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OHIO STATE FOOTBALL

For Second Straight Year, No Home Losses



JEFF BREHM

A LONG ONE — Michael Jenkins (12) caught a 60-yard pass against the Boilermakers that stands as the third longest of his career. He also has 151 receptions, three short of third place on OSU's all-time list.

Continued From Page 9

pass before tucking the ball into Void's belly. The Boilermakers tailback took off around right end and raced into the end zone for the game-tying touchdown.

But the Buckeyes had a chance to win the game, thanks again to a defensive turnover. As Orton was trying to make something happen in the final two minutes, he fumbled again and OSU safety Donte Whitner came away with the loose ball on the Purdue 29-yard line.

Ohio State simply centered the ball for Nugent on the next three plays, giving him a chance to win it with a 41-yard field goal on the final play. But when the snap was low, Nugent's kick was lower than normal and Purdue backup linebacker Bobby Iwuchukwu jumped up to bat the ball down.

In overtime, both defenses continued to dominate. OSU gained only 6 yards in its possession before Nugent was summoned again. This time, he barely got his 36-yard attempt over Iwuchukwu, but it sailed through the uprights.

Likewise, Purdue managed only 6 yards on its possession. But Fox got enough of Jones' 37-yard attempt to help it sail just outside the posts, preserving the Buckeyes' victory and giving OSU's senior class a perfect 16-0 record at home the past two years.

It is the first time since 1983 and 1984 that Ohio State has posted back-to-back perfect records in the Horseshoe.

Game Notes

Nugent's three field goals against Purdue gave him 48 for his career. He is in third place all-time for the Buckeyes, just one behind Tim Williams (1990-93). Dan Stultz (1996-2000) is the career leader with 59.

With his 10 points in the game, Nugent also moved to within nine points of eighth place on Ohio State's all-time scoring list. Nugent now has 245 career points, just behind Josh Jackson (254, 1993-96).

Jenkins' 60-yard reception was the third longest of his 151 career catches for the Buckeyes. He had 68- and 66-yarders against Penn State in 2001.

Those 151 receptions place him just three in back of Gary Williams (1979-82) for third place all-time for the Buckeyes.

But there is one record of Williams' that Jenkins cannot reach. Although he now has at least one reception in 37 straight games, Jenkins will run out of time before reaching Williams' school record of 48 consecutive games with at least one catch.

Ohio State outrushed Purdue 125-106 and is now 9-0 this season when outrushing its opponents.

The Buckeyes still have the No. 1 rated team in the country against the rush, averaging 50.5 yards per game. The rest of the top five, through games of Nov. 15, features LSU (60.8), Southern Cal (66.4), Oregon State (76.3) and Boise State (82.7).

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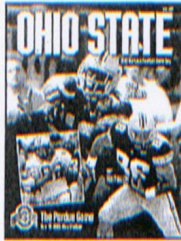
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The Numbers Game

Ohio State 16, Purdue 13 (OT)

Nov. 15, 2003 — Ohio Stadium, Columbus, Ohio

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	OT	F
PURDUE	3	3	0	7	0	13
OHIO STATE	0	6	0	7	3	16



First Quarter

PUR — Ben Jones, 45 yard field goal, 7:29; 12 plays, 53 yards, 5:49 TOP.

Second Quarter

OSU — Nugent, 26 yard field goal, 14:50; 10 plays, 79 yards, 4:27 TOP.

PUR — Ben Jones, 47 field goal, 13:01; 5 plays, 19 yards, 1:41 TOP.

OSU — Nugent, 52 yard field goal, 2:42; 5 plays, 2 yards, 1:19 TOP.

Fourth Quarter

OSU — Kudla, fumble recovery in end zone (Nugent kick), 11:23.

PUR — Void, 11 yard run (Ben Jones kick), 4:36; 8 plays, 92 yards, 2:12 TOP.

Overtime

OSU — Nugent, 36 yard field goal; 4 plays, 6 yards, 0:00 TOP.

Att. — 105,286

Weather — 43 degrees, cloudy; wind 5 MPH from S-SE.

Team Statistics

	PUR	OSU
First Downs	24	15
Rushing	8	4
Passing	13	10
Penalty	3	1
Rushes-Yards	36-106	39-125
Passing Yards	249	226
Passes (Att.-Comp.-Int.)	47-27-0	30-15-0
Offensive Plays	83	69
Total Net Yards	355	351
Third Down Efficiency	5-17	4-17
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	0-0
Punts	7-39.6	10-41.3
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	1-0
Penalties	6-35	9-68
Time of Possession	29:01	30:59

Individual Statistics

RUSHING (Att.-Net Yds.) — **PUR:** Void 22-60; Orton 11-53; Team 3-(-7). **OSU:** Ross 23-79; Krenzel 14-39; Joe 2-7.

PASSING (Att.-Comp.-Int.-Yds.-TD) — **PUR:** Orton 47-27-0-249-0. **OSU:** Krenzel 29-15-0-226-0; Team 1-0-0-0-0.

RECEIVING (Rec.-Yds.) — **PUR:** Stubblefield 8-78; Standford 8-56; Void 4-43; Chambers 3-28; Ingraham 1-18; C.Davis 1-10; Br.Jones 1-10; Bushong 1-6. **OSU:** Jenkins 6-123; Holmes 6-57; Hamby 1-27; Joe 1-10; Hartsocck 1-9.

PUNTING (No.-Avg.-Long) — **PUR:** Slaton 7-39.6-51. **OSU:** Sander 10-41.3-56.

PUNT RETURNS (No.-Yds.) — **PUR:** Chambers 2-9. **OSU:** Jenkins 3-13.

KICKOFF RETURNS (No.-Yds.) — **PUR:** Void 1-41; Brooks 1-24. **OSU:** R.Hall 3-41.

FUMBLE RECOVERIES — **PUR:** None. **OSU:** Anderson 1-0; Kudla 1-0.

INTERCEPTIONS (No.-Yds.) — **PUR:** None. **OSU:** None.

SACKS — **PUR:** Grover 1-4; Terrill 1-3; Nesfield 1-3; Dzolovic 1-2; L.Johnson 0.5-2; Schweigert 0.5-2. **OSU:** W.Smith 1-7; Scott 1-6.

TACKLES FOR LOSS (No.-Yds.) — **PUR:** Grover 1-4; Terrill 1-3; Nesfield 1-3; Dzolovic 1-2; L.Johnson 0.5-2; Schweigert 0.5-2; Gardner 0.5-2; Gardner 0.5-1; Koutouvides 0.5-1. **OSU:** W.Smith 2.5-8; Scott 1.5-6; Carpenter 1-3; Reynolds 1-2; Hawk 0.5-1; Anderson 0.5-1.

TACKLES (Solo-Assist-Tot.) — **PUR:** Koutouvides 2-12-14; Reeves 7-6-13; L.Johnson 3-5-8; Schweigert 1-6-7; Phillips 2-4-6; Grover 2-4-6; Gardner 1-4-5; Pollard 1-4-5; Rogers 3-1-4; Iwuchukwu 1-2-3; Terrill 1-2-3; K.Smith 1-1-2; Dzolovic 1-1-2; Villarreal 1-1-2; Nesfield 1-1-2; Void 1-0-1; Mattaway 0-1-1; Spencer 0-1-1. **OSU:** Fox 9-1-10; Reynolds 2-6-8; W.Smith 5-2-7; Allen 3-3-6; Everett 4-1-5; Gamble 4-0-4; Salley 3-1-4; Carpenter 2-2-4; Fraser 2-2-4; Hawk 2-2-4; Youboty 3-0-3; Scott 1-2-3; Pagac Jr. 1-2-3; Anderson 0-2-2; Pitcock 1-0-1; Nugent 1-0-1.

PLAYERS IN THE GAME — **PURDUE:** Defense, Phillips, Terrill, Grover, Nesfield, L.Johnson, Koutouvides, Gardner, Reeves, Schweigert, Pollard, Rogers, Slaton, Offense, J.Wilson, Hall, Davis, Otto, M.Turner, Hardwick, Moore, Butler, R.Williams, Orton, Void, Ben Jones, Reserves, Chambers, Ferrell, K.Smith, Edwards, E.Smith, Stubblefield, Brooks, Br.Jones, Mattaway, Iwuchukwu, Goldsberry, Spencer, Leimberger, Villarreal, Dzolovic, Pilipauskis, Standford, Ingraham, Bushong, Flemings, Tomlin. **OHIO STATE:** Offense, Jenkins, Sims, Clarke, Mangold, Stepanovich, Olivea, Hartsocck, Holmes, Krenzel, Ross, Joe, Nugent, Defense, Fraser, Scott, Anderson, W.Smith, Hawk, Pagac Jr., Reynolds, Fox, Gamble, Salley, Allen, Sander, Reserves, Childress, Everett, Whitner, T.Smith, Moore, Youboty, Mitchell, Harley, Matthews, Carpenter, Detsish, Kne, Kudla, Bradley, Andrews, Olds, Schafer, Bishop, Hamby, R.Hall, Arden, Hollins, White, Pitcock, Bond, Green.

Season Statistics

2003 Game-By-Game

Date	Opponent (AP Rank)	Result	Crowd
Aug. 30	(2) WASHINGTON (17)	W, 28-9	105,078
Sept. 6	(2) SAN DIEGO STATE	W, 16-13	104,433
Sept. 13	(3) N.C. STATE (24)	W, 44-38 (30T)	104,890
Sept. 20	(5) BOWLING GREEN	W, 24-17	104,358
Sept. 27	(4) NORTHWESTERN	W, 20-0	104,680
Oct. 11	(3) at Wisconsin	L, 17-10	79,793
Oct. 18	(8) IOWA (9)	W, 19-10	105,044
Oct. 25	(8) at Indiana	W, 35-6	51,240
Nov. 1	(8) at Penn State	W, 33-20	108,276
Nov. 8	(7) MICHIGAN ST. (14)	W, 33-23	105,194
Nov. 15	(4) PURDUE (11)	W, 16-13 (OT)	105,286
Nov. 22	(4) at Michigan (5)	12:10 p.m.	

*OSU's gameday AP ranking is in parentheses before the opponent, while the opponent's ranking is after the name.

Team Statistics

	OSU	Opp
First Downs	183	198
Rushing	80	53
Passing	95	120
Penalty	8	25
Average Per Game/Rush	130.6	50.5
Average Per Game/Pass	196.5	225.2
Total Offense	3,598	3,033
Total Plays	725	774
Average Per Game	327.1	275.7
Average Per Play	5.0	3.9
Penalties-Yards	79-671	70-480
Fumbles-Lost	19-11	30-10
3rd Down Efficiency	51/156	63/178
Percentage	33%	35%
4th Down Efficiency	8/11	4/12
Percentage	73%	33%
Sacks-Yards	35-249	29-137
Time of Possession Avg.	30:43	29:17

Score By Quarters

	1	2	3	4	OT	Tot.	Avg.
Ohio State	85	54	48	56	23	266	24.2
Opponents	34	30	16	72	14	166	15.1

Attendance

	Games	Total	Avg.
Home	8	838,963	104,870
Away	3	239,309	79,770
Total	11	1,078,272	98,025

Individual Statistics

Rushing	Att.	Net	Avg.	TD	Long
Lydell Ross	164	722	4.4	9	35
Maurice Hall	96	319	3.3	1	33
Craig Krenzel	92	215	2.3	3	23
Ira Guilford	28	64	2.3	0	15
Branden Joe	12	41	3.4	0	12
Scott McMullen	16	39	2.4	0	16
Chris Gamble	3	19	6.3	0	15
OSU Totals	429	1,437	3.3	13	35
OPP Totals	343	556	1.6	5	29

Receiving

	Att.	Net	Avg.	TD	Long
Michael Jenkins	41	606	14.8	5	60
Ben Hartsocck	31	277	8.9	2	20
Drew Carter	25	410	16.4	1	49
Santonio Holmes	22	391	17.8	3	47
Ryan Hamby	15	172	11.5	3	31
Lydell Ross	8	68	8.5	0	16
Bam Childress	7	72	10.3	0	15
Roy Hall	5	59	11.8	0	18
OSU Totals	169	2,161	12.8	14	60
OPP Totals	257	2,477	9.6	12	79

Scoring

	TD	EPK	EPR	EPP	FG	SAF	PTS
Mike Nugent	—	30-30	—	—	16-19	—	78
Lydell Ross	9	—	—	—	—	—	54
M. Jenkins	6	—	—	—	—	—	36
R. Hamby	3	—	—	—	—	—	18
C. Krenzel	3	—	—	0-1	—	—	18

Passing

	Comp.	Att.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Int.	Rating
C. Krenzel	122	221	55.2	1,630	9-8	123.36	
S. McMullen	43	65	66.2	507	5-2	150.90	
J. Zwick	4	8	50.0	24	0-0	75.20	
Team	0	2	0.0	0	0-0	0.00	
OSU Totals	169	296	57.1	2,161	14-10	127.27	
OPP Totals	257	431	59.6	2,477	12-13	111.06	

FG Distance

	0-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Mike Nugent	5-6	5-6	4-5	2-2	16-19
OSU Totals	5-6	5-6	4-5	2-2	16-19
OPP Totals	1-2	3-6	8-9	0-1	12-18

Punting

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Bk	Long
B.J. Sander	66	2,830	42.9	0	68
OSU Totals	66	2,830	42.9	0	68
OPP Totals	76	3,103	40.8	1	61

Interceptions

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
Dustin Fox	3	6	2.0	0	6
Will Allen	2	107	53.5	1	100
A.J. Hawk	2	55	27.5	0	55
Donte Whitner	2	12	6.0	0	7
Tyler Everett	1	66	66.0	0	66
Robert Reynolds	1	19	19.0	0	19
Chris Gamble	1	0	0.0	0	0
Brandon Mitchell	1	0	0.0	0	0
OSU Totals	13	265	20.4	1	100
OPP Totals	10	163	16.3	1	78

Punt Returns

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
Chris Gamble	20	92	4.6	0	12
Michael Jenkins	15	144	9.6	1	54
Santonio Holmes	7	30	4.3	0	10
Roy Hall	1	13	13.0	0	0
Donte Whitner	0	0	0.0	0	0
OSU Totals	43	279	6.5	2	54
OPP Totals	21	126	6.0	0	26

Kickoff Returns

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
Chris Gamble	5	93	18.6	0	27
Troy Smith	5	83	16.6	0	21
Roy Hall	4	73	18.2	0	32
Maurice Hall	3	60	20.0	0	27
Bam Childress	2	21	10.5	0	12
Michael Jenkins	1	8	8.0	0	8
OSU Totals	20	338	16.9	0	32
OPP Totals	32	672	21.0	1	93

Defensive Leaders

	Solo	Ass.	Tot.	TFL	Yds.	Sacks
A.J. Hawk	43	45	88	11.5	47	4-0-34
Dustin Fox	48	17	65	2-0-3	—	—
Will Allen	32	33	65	3-0-7	—	—
Robert Reynolds	32	31	63	7.5	30	2-0-15
Nate Salley	35	27	62	1-0-2	—	—
Will Smith	29	17	46	20-0-92	10-566	—
Tim Anderson	14	26	40	10-0-54	3-5-24	—
Chris Gamble	25	9	34	2-0-3	—	—
Fred Pagac Jr.	12	19	31	3.5-15	1-0-8	—
Bobby Carpenter	18	12	30	4-0-25	2-5-20	—
OSU Totals	423	326	749	92-397	35-249	—
OPP Totals	403	388	791	63-214	29-137	—

Fumbles Forced
 2 — Will Allen, Bobby Carpenter, Darrion Scott, Will Smith; 1 — Mike D'Andrea, Tyler Everett, Dustin Fox, Marcus Green, Donte Whitner, Team.

Fumbles Recovered
 2 — Tim Anderson; 1 — Will Allen, Jason Bond, Simon Fraser, Mike Kudla, Brandon Mitchell, Fred Pagac Jr., David Patterson, Robert Reynolds.

Blocked Kicks
 1 — Dustin Fox, Roy Hall.

NORTH STAR VISION CENTER

NORTHWEST 1910 Crown Park Court **614-326-1830**

NORTHEAST 1680 Schrock Rd