

BUCKEYE SPORTS BULLETIN

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"For The Buckeye Fan Who Needs To Know More"

Nov. 4, 1989

OSU Rises From Dead To Edge Gophers

Buck Comeback One For The Books

By Mark Rea

Cut this one out and put it in the scrapbook.

Ohio State's electrifying resurrection from the dead against Minnesota Oct. 28 ranks right up there with the 1935 game against Notre Dame, the Snow Bowl, the 1969 Rose Bowl, Archie Griffin's first game, the time Art Schlichter and Dave Wilson combined to pass for 10 TDs and almost 1,000 yards and Keith Byars' five-touchdown performance against Illinois.

The Buckeyes made every mistake in the book in the first half against the Gophers, falling into a 31-0 hole with 4:29 left in the second quarter.

But the team that had had its character questioned time after time this season peeled itself off the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome carpet and made the second-biggest comeback in major college football history.

Maryland fell behind Miami 31-0 at halftime in 1984 before rallying for a 42-40 victory.

It was Ohio State's biggest comeback ever, surpassing the 24-point deficit the Buckeyes wiped out in a 45-38 victory over Illinois in 1984. That was the game in which Byars scored five TDs.

Ohio State head coach John Cooper ran out of superlatives for his team while talking to reporters after the game.

"I guarantee I've never been more proud of a football team than I am of this one today," Cooper said. "They never gave up. They kept fighting back and fighting back."

"Guy after guy after guy kept coming up with big plays. You think they're down and out and back they come again and again. I don't think anyone can question this team's character today."

The Buckeyes went from paupers to kings in the space of just 30 minutes.

The first half was most definitely a pauper half. Nothing went right.

OSU's defense stopped Minnesota cold on the game's first possession and appeared to be set up with excellent field position when punter Brent Herbel kicked short.

But the punt took a weird bounce off the artificial surface and hit OSU tight end Rich Huffman in the leg. It rolled away from Huffman and into the waiting arms of Minnesota's Scott Streiff.

Four plays later, Gopher tailback Darrell Thompson scored on a 12-yard run to make it 7-0 in favor of Minnesota.

Then the lights went out for the Buckeyes. In rapid succession, the Gophers landed a series of potential knockout punches.

Quarterback Greg Frey was sacked from behind by Minnesota's Eddie Miles, who spun the QB around, stripping the ball out of his hands. That set up a Gophers field goal, making it 10-0.



Ohio State players took time out following the 41-37 victory over Minnesota to thank their fans, who numbered several thousand at the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome. Shown accepting congratulations from the Buckeye faithful are reserve players Mike Chancey (53), Dante Lee (20) and William Houston (42).

Continued On Page 11

12802

MARK REA

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Buckeye Victory Truly A Classic

Some of my friends still can't figure out how I can get so excited about sporting events.

That's all right. I can't figure out how they can get so excited about re-reading "A Tale Of Two Cities" or watching "Gone With The Wind" for the 15th time or standing in line to see Pavarotti perform "Pagliacci."

I would never attempt to parallel a sporting event with classic literature, cinema or opera. But, as football games go, Ohio State's come-from-behind victory over Minnesota was a classic in every definition of the word.

Contrary to the popular belief held by non-sports fans, not every game played is a classic. Of the millions of games played every year in various sports, 99.99 percent of them are very ordinary. Sure, there are upsets time and time again. But most of them hardly cross the cavernous line to become classics.

Let's face it. Guys like Charles Dickens, Clark Gable and Luciano Pavarotti don't come down the pike every day. And games like the Buckeyes played against the Golden Gophers don't come along every year either.

In fact, you could count on the fingers on both hands the number of really classic games the Buckeyes have played in their 100 years of football.

Ohio State had so many chances to die in the game, but it never did.

When the score was 31-0, they didn't give in, although only one other team in the history of college football had been down by that many points and come back to win.

Junior quarterback Greg Frey had a chance to quit in the first quarter when he was knocked silly by Minnesota's Mike Sunvold. But he came back to have the second half of his life.

Junior tight end Jim Palmer had a chance to quit in the first quarter when he jumped offside on a third-down play, ending an OSU drive near midfield. But he came back in the fourth quarter to grab a 34-yard pass that set up the Buckeyes' winning touchdown.

Freshman split end Brian Stablein had a chance to quit in the first quarter, failing to catch a pass in the end zone which could have cut Minnesota's 10-0 lead to 10-7. On the next play, Frey was sacked and Sean Lumpkin's 85-yard fumble return made it 17-0. But Stablein came back in the fourth quarter for a key 19-yard reception to sustain OSU's winning drive.

Junior flanker Jeff Graham had a chance to quit in the first quarter. He failed to come up to field a punt near the 30-yard line and the ball took a strange bounce, hitting teammate Rich Huffman and skittering away to the Gophers, setting up their first touchdown. But Graham came back in the second half to grab six passes for 104 yards, including the game-winning touchdown.

The entire defensive unit of the Buckeyes had a chance to quit in the first half. After surrendering 31 points in the first quarter and a half, the defense came back to allow only six more in the final two and a half periods.

The offense had a chance to quit early in the fourth quarter. After climbing back to within 13 points after a 98-yard touchdown drive, Minnesota came back with a drive in which it converted two separate critical third-and-seven situations. That drive resulted in a Gopher field goal, putting them back on top by 16.

But the Buckeyes wouldn't die, coming right back with another scoring drive.

Editor's Notebook with Mark Rea

They had another chance to quit with five minutes left in the game when Minnesota got another field goal to go up by 11 points. But, they came right back with an eight-play, 68-yard drive in just over two minutes and a five-play, 73-yard drive in 61 seconds to pull the game out of the fire.

Quite honestly, I thought the game was over when it was 31-0. The Buckeyes had done next to nothing right in the first half, including giving up the ball four times.

Even as they slowly chipped away in the second half, it seemed doubtful at best that they could come back to win.

Then, when the Gophers made it 37-26 with 5:12 to play, I started thinking back to last year's LSU game. In that one, the Buckeyes trailed the sixth-ranked Tigers 33-20 with four and a half minutes to go and stormed back to win 36-33.

Any sports fan knows that miracles can happen. Remember the '54 Giants, the '69 Mets, the '80 U.S. Olympic hockey team? But could the Buckeyes do it again for the second time in 16 games?

Even when they pulled to within three points at the 3:04 mark, I was worried. Sometimes a team can expend all of its energy and emotion just catching up. Then, once it gets within striking distance, more often than not, it

seems to break down at crucial moments.

But the defense did not break down. It held the Gophers to a three-downs-and-out series, allowing the Buckeyes ofense to get the ball back.

Then Frey took over. He threw an 18-yard strike to Snow, then connected with Stablein before being sacked for a 13-yard loss. Well, nice try, I thought.

Frey wouldn't quit, though. He came back to find Palmer down the left sideline for a 34-yard gain and then flicked a 15-yard touchdown pass to Graham for the game winner.

It was a big win for Ohio State. But, best of all, from now on, whenever people gather to talk about their favorite novels, movies or plays, Buckeye fans can counter with a classic of their own — the 1989 victory over Minnesota.

ACCORDING TO the NCAA rule book, officials should have called a penalty against Ohio State's Vinnie Clark when he ran out of bounds before re-entering to recover a free kick to help beat Indiana Oct. 14.

According to Rule 6-1-2-f, a foul occurs if a player on the kicking team voluntarily runs out of bounds and returns to the field of play during a free kick. The foul is a five-yard penalty and a re-kick.

If a player not only runs out of bounds voluntarily, but returns and also touches the kick, the violation allows the receiving team the option of taking the ball where it was touched or accepting the five-yard penalty and re-kick.

Ohio State went on to win the ball game 35-31.

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QB Throws For 327 Yards In Second Half

Frey Rallies Buckeyes To Big Victory

By Mark Rea

After a nightmarish first half, Ohio State quarterback Greg Frey had a dreamy second-half performance, rallying the Buckeyes from a 31-point deficit to a 41-37 Big Ten victory over Minnesota.

Frey was pressured throughout the first half by an aggressive Golden Gophers defense which sacked him three times and caused him to fumble twice.

The OSU junior quarterback completed only two of eight passes for a meager 35 yards in the first half.

Then Frey had a career performance in 30 minutes. He completed 18 of 23 attempts for 327 yards and three touchdowns, engineering the Buckeyes to five scoring drives.

Selected the *Big Bear Buckeye of the Week*, Frey finished 20 of 31 for the day for 362 yards. It was the second-biggest single game passing performance in Ohio State history, eclipsed only by Art Schlichter's 458 yards against Florida State in 1981.

Frey's total yardage of 331 marked the first 300-yard total offense performance by an Ohio State player since Mike Tomczak passed for 298 and ran for 12 at Michigan in 1983.

It was also the first 300-yard passing performance for a Buckeye quarterback since Art Schlichter piled up 336 against Purdue in 1981.

Many Buckeye fans were swept up in the euphoria of the comeback after the game. Frey was more than willing to join them.

"Never in my life have I been in a game like this," Frey said. "This tops everything. It was unbelievable, just unbelievable."

For the quarterback who has come under fire more often than not during his 18-game tenure as a starter, Frey felt a certain amount of vindication after the victory. Most of the vindication, though, was from self-imposed criticism.

"I try not to pay too much attention to the media," Frey said. "I don't read the papers and I don't watch the news. I just go do my thing and I don't worry about what other people think. That's the only way I can treat it. I control what I do and nobody else does."

"I guess that's why I'm really happy with this game. After last week, I wasn't too happy with the way I played. I was out to prove something to myself today. I never gave up. I never do. Despite the bad first half, I kept my composure. The whole team did."

Last week, Frey had what he termed "a pretty bad performance" against Purdue. Despite the fact the Buckeyes turned the Boiler-makers away with a 21-3 loss, Frey managed to complete only three of nine passes for 47 yards.

Coupled with his dismal first-half production against the Gophers, the OSU quarterback had completed only five of his last 17 passes going into the second half.

"I didn't think I played that badly in the first half," Frey insisted. "I made a lot of mistakes, but things just didn't go our way. I got hit in the back on the first fumble and then, on the other play where the guy ran it back all the way, I got hit from behind again."

On that play, which resulted in an 85-yard return by sophomore free safety Sean Lumpkin, Frey was dazed after a hard hit by junior defensive tackle Mike Sunvold.

The Ohio State junior stayed on the Metrodome turf for several minutes while trainers checked him over. He finally got up and staggered to the bench. However, when the Buckeyes regained possession on the ensuing kickoff, Frey was right back in there.

"I really didn't know what happened on the play," he confessed. "All I know was that I was hit from behind and then (co-head trainer) Billy Hill was talking to me. I just needed to clear my head for a minute."

"Then, when I got to the bench, I was all right. But then I looked up at the scoreboard and it was 17-0. I figured something bad had happened."

Minnesota wasn't through in the first half. A four-play drive that covered 74 yards made it 24-0 and then a Frey interception set up another Gopher touchdown, making it 31-0.

It represented a bigger deficit than the Buckeyes faced in the Southern Cal game when they let down in the second half. That loss, however, fueled some of the fire for the comeback against Minnesota.

"The USC game was hard, but we got some valuable experience from it," Frey said. "We got some chances in the second half today and we took advantage of them."

Frey added there was another game in the back of his mind, too.

"We had four minutes left and needed two scores," he said, "and I was thinking back to the LSU game last year when we had only three minutes left, needed two scores, and got them."

"I just had to keep telling myself, 'We can do this, we can do this.' I had to do that the whole second half because you have a lot of chances to let down in that situation."

After driving for a field goal to begin the second half, the Buckeyes got a break when freshman linebacker Steve Tovar recovered a fumble. But OSU gave it right back on the next play when senior Jaymes Bryant's pass off the halfback option was intercepted.

Later, when the Buckeyes would scramble back within striking distance,



Ohio State quarterback Greg Frey (15) just gets a pass off over Minnesota defensive end Eddie Miles (28). Frey passed for 362 yards and three touchdowns against the Gophers, rallying the Buckeyes from a 31-point deficit for a 41-37 win.

the Gophers would tack on two additional field goals to make their comeback even tougher.

Then, on the next-to-last touchdown drive, a touchdown pass from Frey to tight end Jim Palmer was wiped out by a holding penalty.

"Those are times when some lesser teams might give up," Frey said. "But we never did. We always thought we had a chance. We just kept telling ourselves that we could do it."

"Naturally, we wanted to prove to everyone else that we could win this game. But, most of all, we wanted to prove it to ourselves."

So, with 5:14 remaining in the game and the Buckeyes trailing 37-26, Frey engineered an eight-play, 68-yard drive that featured all passes. After the Palmer touchdown was nullified, Frey went right back to work, hitting junior flanker Jeff Graham over the middle on a third and goal from the 18.

That took the ball to the one-yard line, from where Frey took it over himself on the next play. His two-point conversion pass to Graham made it 37-34 with 3:04 remaining.

Less than a minute and a half later, the Buckeyes had possession again, thanks to an inspired defensive stand.

Frey started the last drive with an 18-yard pass to Snow and then hit freshman split end Brian Stablein over the middle, taking the ball to the Minnesota 36.

Frey was sacked on the next play for a 13-yard loss, but he shook that off and came right back to find Palmer along the sideline. The senior tight end made

a good catch and shed two tacklers before finishing the 34-yard play at the Minnesota 15.

"That play was a good one," Frey said. "I was scrambling around and the guy who was covering Jim wasn't looking. He's a guy you can throw to in a situation like that and he made a great catch."

One play later, Frey found Graham all alone in the end zone off a slant pattern, to top off the comeback.

Frey admitted the come-from-behind victory should give the Buckeyes quite a boost as they move into the second half of the 1989 season.

"I don't think we wanted to do it exactly this way," he said, "but we feel that this game definitely gets us over the hump."

"There is a big difference between having a 5-2 record as opposed to being 4-3. But by no means can we rest after today. We've got Northwestern next week and it is no easy task. They've got a good offense and we're going to have to score some points again."

"This game was a big one, for sure," Frey continued, "but it was just another step for us in our goal to win the rest of our games. It was just one more step toward playing Michigan for the Big Ten championship and the Rose Bowl."

"The biggest thing a game like this does for us is tell us that we are capable of doing almost anything. We never want to get behind like that, but it's awful nice to know that if we do fall behind, we have the ability to come back in a big way."

MARK REA

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EAST

DOWNTOWN

*Flanker Grabs Six Passes For 104 Yards***Catch Dream Come True For Graham***By Mark Rea*

Jeff Graham tried his best to stay cool, but an ear-to-ear grin gave him away.

Breaking out into a hearty laugh, Graham accepted handshakes and backslaps from his teammates while reflecting on the winning touchdown catch in Ohio State's 41-37 victory over Minnesota.

"It's every receiver's dream to catch the ball in that situation," Graham said. "As a kid, you sit back and dream about catching a pass for the winning touchdown in a big comeback.

"Then, when it really happens, it's a feeling you can't quite describe. All I can say is that it's a dream come true for me and the team."

Graham switched to the flanker position two weeks ago in the Buckeyes' plan to get him the ball more often.

Against the Golden Gophers, he caught six passes for a career-high 104 yards, one touchdown and a pair of two-point conversions.

It was Graham's second 100-yard receiving day this season. He caught two passes for 101 yards against Boston College, including an 80-yard touchdown on the Buckeyes' first play of the game.

But during the last two weeks, Graham had become a forgotten man in the Buckeyes' offense. While Ohio State had beaten Indiana and Purdue with a punishing ground game, Graham was used primarily as a blocker. The junior had a streak of 14 straight games with at least one reception snapped against the Hoosiers, and logged only two receptions for 37 yards versus the Boiler-makers.

Although he was happy to get more chances to catch the ball, Graham obviously wasn't worried about attaining personal goals.

"As far as team aspects are concerned, I look at it as doing the things you have to do to win," he said. "If that means blocking on every play, I'm willing to do that.

"If that means running punts back, I'll do that, too. If it means getting open in the end zone on the last play of the

game, hey, I'm definitely up for that."

While Minnesota was marching to a 31-0 lead in the first half, Graham was watching while quarterback Greg Frey suffered through a two-for-eight passing performance for a scant 35 yards.

Graham also was involved in a play which set up Minnesota's first touchdown.

Gophers punter Brent Herbel got off a short kick which landed around the Ohio State 30-yard line. Graham chose to let the ball bounce and it hit teammate Rich Huffman in the leg and then bounded into the hands of Minnesota's Scott Streiff. Four plays later, the Gophers had their first touchdown.

"Those things happen sometimes," Graham shrugged. "It was like our whole first half. We made mistake after mistake and let them get too far out ahead."

Then, all of a sudden, the momentum started to swing back to the Buckeyes. Graham said he felt it begin near the end of the first half.

"When we scored in the second quarter at the end, that gave us a lot of momentum. We knew that it could be done," he said. "You could tell by the momentum in the locker room that everybody was ready. Everybody knew we could score on this team."

"We knew we had the ball coming in the second half and we knew what we had to do. That was the main thing.

"In the first half, we really didn't have anything going. We were just making critical mistakes as a team. Then, we came in at halftime, Coach (John Cooper) got up on the board and told us what we had to do and what we had to stop, and we came out and just did everything right."

Graham had a big hand in just doing everything right.

Midway through the Buckeyes' first possession of the second half, Graham hooked up with Frey on a 29-yard pass play and later snared a nine-yard toss to set up a field goal which cut Minnesota's lead to 31-11.

On the team's next possession, it was a 20-yard pass from Frey to Graham that set up a touchdown, allowing the



While teammate Greg Beatty (3) celebrates in the foreground, Ohio State junior flanker Jeff Graham (85) starts his touchdown dance in the end zone. The play provided the game-winning points in the Buckeyes' 41-37 victory over Minnesota.

Buckeyes to trim the lead to 31-18.

Then, in the fourth quarter, when Ohio State needed two touchdowns to win, the Frey-Graham tandem was nearly unstoppable.

With the score 37-26 and time running out, Frey connected with Graham for 14 yards. Then, after big catches by Graham's receiving stablemates Greg Beatty and Brian Stablein, Graham made another big grab on a third-and-goal from the 18.

He struggled to get into the end zone, but free safety Les O'Hara made an excellent tackle to stop him at the one.

"That was a dig route with one man under the coverage," Graham explained. "I knew I had a man on my hip and I just had to elude him and get open. Once I shook him and got open, Greg saw me. I thought I was in the end zone, but the safety came up and made a good hit."

On fourth down, Frey dove into the end zone to bring the Buckeyes back within three points at 37-34.

Then, with 51 seconds left in the game, Frey hit Graham for the sixth time in the game. The junior flanker ran a simple slant pattern to the corner of the end zone and broke wide open. Frey threw a perfect strike for the 15-yard game-winning touchdown.

It was the kind of comeback victory that Graham said would show the rest of the college football world that the Buckeyes were for real.

"I played in a comeback kind of like this in high school, but it was not similar to this feeling," Graham said. "This game was on national TV and this was Ohio State."

"A lot of people were questioning us, wanting to know where our guts were. I know that was going through a lot of people's minds. But we just went out, stayed confident and did the things we had to do.

"We just went out to prove to ourselves that we could come back. Every time before when we'd been behind, we really didn't have anything going. We didn't score against other teams, made mental mistakes. Today, we executed in the second half like we know we are capable of executing."

The comeback victory, the Buckeyes' third in four Big Ten games, also allowed the team to stay just one game behind the conference's co-leaders, Illinois and Michigan.

"It does a lot for us," Graham said. "It puts us in a different position for the Big Ten race. It also proves we can come back on a team when we are way behind. We really don't want to be in that situation, but we know we can do it."

"People call it luck, people call it miracles, but I believe in them. I believe in luck and miracles. This sets the tone for this team for the rest of the season. We know that the goals we have set are reachable."

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BSB Quotebook: Ohio State 41, Minnesota 37

Head coach John Cooper on the team's diverse halves of play against the Gophers: "We had embarrassed ourselves up until we scored right at the end of the first half. That was maybe the worst half of football I'd ever been associated with. Then, the second half, with the points and production, it might possibly have been the best."

Minnesota head coach John Gutekunst on his assessment of the game: "That's the worst defense I've ever been associated with. I thought our tackling was terrible, I thought our discipline was terrible and I thought our adjustments to the two-point plays were terrible. Everything is magnified when you can't play defense."

Quarterback Greg Frey on his never-say-die attitude on the sideline: "You just have to keep reminding everybody that the game is not over. Never give up until you're 20 points down with three seconds to go. I knew all we had to do to get back in the game was execute like we could."

Center Dan Beatty on the team's attitude after the comeback victory: "We don't want to put ourselves in the position we did today, but it's still satisfying to win. We'll feed off this one tonight and Sunday, then we have to go back to work. The second half looked pretty good as far as points were concerned, but the first half was atrocious."

Tight end Jim Palmer on his thoughts after catching a 34-yard pass to set up the Buckeyes' winning touchdown: "I was probably about the third receiver on that play. I just ran about a 10-yard drag pattern. The guy had me covered like a blanket, but Greg threw a perfect pass to me, right in my hands. I had in my mind I was close to the sideline, but I was thinking score first."



Dan Beatty



Scott Schaffner

Offensive coordinator Jim Colletto on his prospects for a comeback: "You always want to think you can win, but sometimes as a coach, you get a little more realistic. When Minnesota got another field goal and went up by 11, I didn't know if we were going to be able to do this. Thank goodness, the kids can't read my mind."

Offensive tackle Joe Staysniak on his thoughts about OSU's winning touchdown drive: "There was no way we were going to fail. We were all tired and kind of having heart trouble at the end. But, that's the kind of game, when you win, that just picks up the whole team. We needed two scores in the last five minutes and we did it."

Tailback Carlos Snow on the play of the offensive line: "Those guys are the greatest. Guys like Joe Staysniak and Tim Moxley and Jeff Davidson are telling the backs all day who we should be blocking. It helps you a lot and lets you concentrate more on what you need to do."

Minnesota quarterback Scott Schaffner, who nearly rallied the Gophers to a winning touchdown on the final play of the game: "You've got to admire their guys for not giving up. We couldn't put them away. That's the difference right there. We had them down by 31 points and those guys just wouldn't give up."

Snow, mixing metaphors while describing what the victory meant to the team: "It tells you a lot about the character of this team. We've grown together a lot since the game against USC. I mean, this time we were down, but not out. When you're working as a team, miracles can happen. I'm just glad we were able to circle the bandwagons and come together as a team."

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*Both For The Buckeyes And His Sore Knee***Snow Sees Win As '89 Turning Point**

By Mark Rea

The way Carlos Snow was looking at things, Ohio State's stunning comeback against Minnesota Oct. 28 was a two-pronged turning point in the 1989 season.

Snow said the Buckeyes could use the victory, in which they came from 31 points behind, as the place where they finally turned the corner as a Big Ten championship contender.

And it was also the game in which Snow finally began to forget about a sore left knee which had hampered his performance somewhat in the early going.

"This one feels pretty good," Snow smiled after the Buckeyes had achieved the 41-37 victory. "I think we can look at this game and know we can do just about anything."

"We're capable of anything. We never want to fall behind like we did. But, if we play the way we know we can, we should be able to achieve our goal and that's to play Michigan for a trip to the Rose Bowl."

As far as his surgically repaired knee is concerned, Snow said despite his first full week of practice and a game on artificial turf, the joint felt fine.

"Hopefully, today was the turning point as far as my knee was concerned," the junior tailback said. "It hasn't bothered me and I wasn't going to let it."

"I couldn't let my knee get to me today. I was too energized. I was too up. I wanted to do a lot today. But, I was also thinking that every time I think about the knee, something else bad happens, like a fumble or something."

"So, this week, I practiced all week. And I'm going to continue to practice all week. My knee feels fine."



Junior tailback Carlos Snow (25) lunges over an outstretched Minnesota defender to score a first-half touchdown for Ohio State. Snow's touchdown came after the Golden Gophers had built a 31-0 lead and helped the Buckeyes start a rally which resulted in the team's biggest comeback in history.

Snow suffered a knee injury in July when he stepped on a sprinkler head while jogging. He underwent arthroscopic surgery July 20 to remove a sliver of torn cartilage from his knee

and had been slowed ever since.

"It's been something that's been in the back of my mind," he admitted. "I mean, how can you not think about it when it's sore?"

"But it's coming along pretty well right now, so I'm not going to think about it anymore."

Snow had perhaps his finest all-around performance this season against the Golden Gophers.

He rushed for 74 yards and one touchdown, caught five passes for 81 yards and two TDs and returned two kickoffs for 123 yards.

On his rushing touchdown, a one-yard run just before halftime, Snow lowered his head and fought his way into the end zone to give the Buckeyes an important score.

In the second half, he took a pair of passes from quarterback Greg Frey for touchdowns, crossing over the middle for one and showing vintage Carlos Snow speed on another.

"The first one was just a crossing pattern," Snow explained. "I came open in the end zone and Greg made a great throw. If you give Greg Frey time to throw, he'll pick any defense apart."

"The second one was a weak side screen. That's a great play because I've got my linemen out there in front of me. It's designed for me to follow their blocking and that's what I did. When you've got guys like (Joe) Staysniak, (Jeff) Davidson and (Tim) Moxley out in front of you, it makes it a lot easier to get to that end zone."

Snow nearly made it to the end zone twice in the first half, running back Minnesota's first kickoff 44 yards and taking the second one back 79 yards. Unfortunately, the Buckeyes failed to cash in on either opportunity.

Snow, who just began returning kickoffs again in the last two games, said the Buckeyes have an explosive return team.

"When you have two people like (freshman) Dante (Lee) and me back there who have the same kind of speed, 4.4 (seconds) in the 40, it's going to give kickers a lot of problems," he said. "They don't know which one of us to kick it to."

"I really thought I was going to break them both, though. I felt real good about being able to outrun some people again. I saw that end zone and said to myself, 'I've got to get there somehow.' I guess I should have cut back and tried to lose him."

Snow's kickoff return yardage puts him in second place on Ohio State's career list. His 861 return yards trails only former Heisman Trophy winner Howard "Hopalong" Cassady's all-time mark of 984.

Despite the team's lack of production in the first half, Snow insisted that the team was not completely discouraged.

"We were beating ourselves and we knew it," he said. "That's what we were thinking about at halftime. Once we got everything figured out, though, we were manhandling them."

"We could see, by looking in their eyes, they were thinking, 'We got them 31-0 now, we can hold back a little bit.' I think that cost them greatly."

"Then, when everything started going in our favor, it just felt like last year's Michigan game."

Snow added that the Buckeyes were confident of scoring on their final drive to take the lead. But they were so confident and so precise, that they left too much time on the clock for a possible Minnesota comeback.

"We wanted to score, but we didn't want to score too quick," he said. "We went something like 73 yards in five plays and didn't take enough time off the clock."

"Then, the defense took over. That was a time to get on your knees and pray. Thank God, everything turned out for us."

BSB "100" Trivia Contest

Test your knowledge of Ohio State football trivia with the following questions. If you score 9-10, you are an All-American; 7-8, all-conference; 5-6, letterman; 3-4, casual fan; 0-2, Michigan grad.

1. Heisman Trophy winner Vic Janowicz played two years in major league baseball for what team?
2. How many of you have been paying attention to your recent Buckeye Sports Bulletins? What former player was pictured on the cover of the first issue of BSB in 1981?
3. Can you name Ohio State's first ever football coach?
4. Two Ohio State head coaches served as high school head coaches at Massillon. Name them.
5. Name three brothers who combined to win 12 varsity football letters at Ohio State.
6. Who is the only quarterback ever to start more than 45 consecutive games for the Buckeyes?
7. This former Ohio State fullback of the 1950s was a pitcher in major league baseball from 1962-69 and is still a major league pitching coach.
8. Place-kicker Vlade Janakievski is a native of what country?
9. True or False. Lou Groza never won a varsity letter at Ohio State.
10. Which Big Ten team defeated Woody Hayes in his first year at OSU and then never beat Hayes again over the next 23 seasons?

BONUS #7: Four Ohio State football players have been named first-team All-Americans on three different occasions. Name them.

Answers appear on page 31 of this edition of BSB. Answers to the bonus question will appear at the end of the football season. Readers submitting the correct answers to all bonus questions can win 100 free issues of Buckeye Sports Bulletin. Questions will appear each week through the Nov. 30 issue. Mail all 11 answers to BSB Trivia Contest, P.O. Box 12453, Columbus, OH 43212. Entry deadline is Dec. 16. Phone entries not accepted. No purchase necessary. In case of a tie, a drawing will be held.

But OSU Recovers To Achieve Comeback Win

Lineman Admits Pass Blocking Rusty

By Mark Rea

Senior offensive tackle Joe Staysniak had a simple explanation for Ohio State's Jekyll-and-Hyde pass protection against Minnesota.

"I think we were a little rusty, to tell you the truth," said the OSU co-captain. "When you throw only 15 passes in the last two games, you tend to forget what it's like to protect the passer."

As a result, the Golden Gophers sacked Buckeye quarterback Greg Frey three times in the first half, while storming to a 31-0 advantage.

Then, in the second half, the offensive line finally shook off their rust and solved the mystery of Minnesota's defense, allowing Frey to complete 18 of 23 passes for 327 yards and three touchdowns in the second half.

The offense rallied all the way from the 31-point deficit to pull out a 41-37 Big Ten victory over Minnesota.

In the first half, Ohio State's offense sputtered for just 74 total yards and six first downs. In addition, it lost three fumbles and one interception.

In the second half, the Buckeyes accounted for 361 total yards and 20 first downs.

Staysniak explained that the line's onfield adjustments, plus an important touchdown just before halftime to cut Minnesota's lead to 31-8, helped jump start the Buckeyes' second-half comeback.

"Pass protection is not something that you can turn off and on," Staysniak said. "You have to be moderately aggressive, not like run blocking when you really get after the other guy."

"In pass protection, you have to have the attitude of sitting back, waiting for them to make their move and then reacting to that. There's a subtle difference between pass and run blocking and it just took a little bit of time for us to adjust."

The Gophers' defense also showed the Buckeyes something they were not prepared for during the early going.

"Their twisting game gave us some problems, especially on their slants," Staysniak said. "They had their tackles in such a way that they were hard to read."

"They were a little bit quicker than we thought, too. We knew they were quick, young and aggressive, but we had a little bit of a problem with their quickness."

Staysniak said the Buckeyes' line simply made its adjustments from play to play.

"After you get beat one time, you make the adjustment," he said. "They started closing the inside down a little bit. Then, they started playing their linemen in different positions."

"But it wasn't anything that we couldn't handle. They surprised us a little early, but we regrouped fairly

well, I think."

The offensive line drew a lot of praise from the people who line up behind it.

"They threw a couple of stunts and slants at us early that we didn't pick up," said quarterback Greg Frey. "But, to the credit of our line, they made the adjustments they needed to make."

"In the second half, they gave me plenty of time to throw. We did a good job of throwing the ball because we did a good job of blocking. We had guys open all day."

Staysniak said he wasn't surprised that the Buckeyes were able to dig themselves out from their first-half hole. He admitted, though, that the way Minnesota scored its points was discouraging.

"We were discouraged throughout the whole deal," he said. "I mean, we had six turnovers in the game. You can't be happy at all with that kind of stat."

"But we knew that it couldn't last. We knew we just had to go out in the second half and play our game. It was just a matter of settling down and getting back in the rhythm of our offense because, early, we really didn't have our rhythm going at all."

Gradually, the Buckeyes began to come back. On the first possession of the second half, they added a field goal to chip three points off the Gophers' lead, then added another touchdown to

make it 31-18 after three quarters.

"You just have to do that sort of thing one play at a time, one series at a time," Staysniak said. "You start looking at it and saying, 'Oh no, we're down 31 points.' If you do that, it's going to seem like an unbelievable task."

"You start looking at it like we did, coming out in the second half and taking it little by little, slowly that mountain turns into a smaller and smaller hill. And we climbed it."

The hill got a little higher early in the fourth quarter when the Gophers tacked on another field goal, giving them a 16-point lead. The Buckeyes came back less than two minutes later to carve Minnesota's lead to eight points.

Still, the Buckeyes wanted two more scores.

"There was never any discussion about a tie," Staysniak said. "The only discussion there was from Coach (John) Cooper who said there would be no discussion about ties."

"Even when we were down by only three, we all agreed we still needed to score another touchdown. We just didn't want to settle for a tie. That doesn't help us win the Big Ten conference."

So, with less than two minutes to go, the Buckeyes stormed 73 yards in just 61 seconds for the winning touchdown.

100 YEARS OF OHIO STATE FOOTBALL



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The Numbers Game

Buckeyes 41, Gophers 37

OHIO STATE 0 8 10 23 41
MINNESOTA 17 14 0 6 37

MINN — Thompson, 12 run (Berglund kick) 12:11
MINN — Berglund 30 field goal 4:17
MINN — Lumpkin, 85 fumble return (Berglund kick) 3:07
MINN — Rhem, 29 pass from Schaffner (Berglund kick) 9:50
MINN — Gaiters, 5 pass from Schaffner (Berglund kick) 4:29
OSU — Snow, 1 run (J.Graham pass from Frey) 0:10
OSU — O'Morrow 25 field goal 10:04
OSU — Snow, 15 pass from Frey (O'Morrow kick) 0:20
MINN — Berglund, 32 field goal 11:24
OSU — Snow, 27 pass from Frey (Snow pass from Frey) 9:51
MINN — Berglund 42 field goal 5:15
OSU — Frey, 1 run (J.Graham pass from Frey) 3:04
OSU — J.Graham, 15 pass from Frey (O'Morrow kick) 0:51
Att. — 33,945

OSU MINN
First Downs 26 16
Rushing 8 9
Passing 16 7
Penalty 2 0
Rushes-Yards 41-73 46-203
Passing Yards 362 154
Passes 32-20-2 18-13-0
Offensive Plays 73 64
Total Net Yards 435 357
Third Down Eff. 5-13 5-14
Punts 3-38.7 6-38.2
Fumbles-Lost 4-4 2-1
Penalties 5-30 5-55
Time Of Possession 31:03 28:57

Individual Statistics

RUSHING (Att.-Net Yds.) — OSU: Snow 23-74; Bryant 4-18; S.Graham 5-12; Frey 9-31.
MINN: Thompson 29-133; Schaffner 10-40; Rhem 5-23; King 1-6; Fleetwood 1-1.
PASSING (Att.-Comp.-Int.-Yds.-TD) — OSU: Frey 31-20-1-362-3; Bryant 1-0-1-0-0. MINN: Schaffner 18-13-0-154-2.
RECEIVING (Rec.-Yds.) — OSU: J.Graham 6-104; Snow 5-81; Beatty 3-61; Palmer 2-47; B.Stablein 2-34; Olive 1-30; Bryant 1-5. MINN: Gaiters 4-27; Rhem 3-43; Tingelhoff 2-33; Strain 2-19; Hopewell 1-24; Thompson 1-8.
PUNTING (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — OSU: Bohlman 3-38.7-51. MINN: Herbel 6-38.2-44.
PUNT RETURNS (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — OSU: J.Graham 2-80-9; Huffman 1-0-0-0. MINN: Gaiters 3-6-8.
KICKOFF RETURNS (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — OSU: Snow 2-61.5-79; Lee 2-32.5-45; Harrison 2-9-0-9; Huffman 1-5-0-5. MINN: Gaiters 4-23.5-44; Rhem 1-10-0-10.
DEFENSIVE FUMBLES RECOVERED BY — OSU:Tovar. MINN: Lumpkin (2), Coughlin, Streiff.
INTERCEPTIONS — OSU: None. MINN: Staats, Foggie.
TACKLES FOR LOSS — OSU: Brown, Herman, Isaman, Tovar. MINN: Miles (2), Akre, Goetz, Sunvold, Hackbarth.
TACKLES (Solo-Ass.-Tot.) — OSU: Peel 5-3-8; Clark 6-1-7; Pelini 5-1-6; Tovar 4-2-6; Thomas 4-1-5; Brown 4-0-4; Isaman 3-1-4; Frimel 2-2-4; Herman 3-0-3; Closson 3-0-3; Lease 2-1-3; Spellman 2-1-3; Dumas 2-1-3; Zizakovic 2-1-3; Coleman 1-0-1; Koch 1-0-1; Lewis 1-0-1; Staynsiak 1-0-1; B.Stablein 1-0-1; Paulk 0-1-1; Huffman 0-1-1. MINN: Staats 7-5-12; Sunvold 4-3-7; Miles 5-1-6; Jackson 4-2-6; Goetz 3-2-3; Coughlin 2-2-4; Stephens 1-3-4; Thaddies 3-0-3; Foggie 2-1-3; Lumpkin 2-1-3; Hackbarth 2-0-2; Piepkorn 2-0-2; Burt 2-0-2; Bryant 1-1-2; McClintock 1-0-1; Mathis 1-0-1; Davis 1-0-1; Williams 1-0-1; Conant 1-0-1; O'Hara 1-0-1; Cummings 1-0-1; Akre 1-0-1.

OSU Season Statistics

RUSHING ATT GAIN LOST NET AVG YD LG
Carlos Snow 135 783 30 753 5.6 9 25
Scottie Graham 84 455 4 451 5.4 4 70
Jaymes Bryant 33 132 9 123 3.7 0 14
Dante Lee 11 95 0 95 8.6 0 20
Zack Dumas 1 45 0 45 45.0 0 45
Tyronne Harrison 6 19 0 19 3.2 0 0
Jeff Graham 2 19 0 19 9.5 0 0
Kirk Herbstreit 2 9 0 9 -9 0 0
Greg Frey 32 58 133 -75 -2 21
OSU Totals 306 1806 185 1421 4.6 13 70
OFF Totals 302 1400 194 1206 4.0 10 36
FIRST DOWNS 147 140
Rushing 65 77
Passing 75 58
Penalty 7 5
AVERAGE PER GAME/RUSH 172.3 203.0
AVERAGE PER GAME/PASS 232.9 183.1
AVERAGE PER PLAY/PASS 8.6 8.3
TOTAL OFFENSE 2836 2703
Total Plays 491 461
Average Per Game 405.1 386.1
Average Per Play 5.8 5.9
PENALTIES-Yards 39-321 32-283
Offense 26-195 12- 98
Defense 7- 66 13-130
Special Teams 6- 60 7- 55
FUMBLES-LOST 14-4 19-13
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY 44- 97 34- 82
Percentage .454 .415
SACKS AGAINST 15-116 11-100
TIME OF POSSESSION 21:39 20:12
Average Per Game 31:14 28:46

RECEIVING NO YARDS AVG YD LG
Jeff Graham 20 372 18.6 2 80
Jim Falmer 13 146 9.7 2 34
Carlos Snow 13 154 11.8 2 30
Bobby Olive 12 222 18.5 1 57
Bernard Edwards 9 119 13.2 1 33
Scottie Graham 6 74 12.3 0 21
Greg Beatty 4 80 20.0 0 23
Brian Stablein 3 43 14.3 0 19
Jaymes Bryant 3 23 7.7 0 11
Jeff Ellie 2 39 19.5 0 30
Tyronne Harrison 1 10 10.0 0 10
OSU Totals 88 1182 14.6 8 80
OFF Totals 118 1630 13.8 12 87

PUNTING NO YARDS AVG YD LG
Jeff Bohlman 23 924 40.2 3 8 1 69
"team" 1 0 - - - -
OSU Totals 24 924 38.5 3 8 1 69
OFF Totals 27 1071 39.7 3 7 0 64
PUNT RETURNS NO YARDS AVG YD LG
Jeff Graham 12 139 11.6 1 66
OSU Totals 12 139 11.6 1 66
OFF Totals 9 76 8.4 0 25

FIELD GOALS (11-5, .455) 46+, 37-, 45-, 36-, 33-, 29-, 48-, 35-, 39-BK, 38-, 25+.
KICKOFF RETURNS NO YARDS AVG YD LG
Bobby Olive 12 195 16.3 0 25
Scottie Graham 5 135 27.0 0 39
Carlos Snow 3 142 47.3 0 79
Dante Lee 3 87 29.0 0 45
Tyronne Harrison 2 18 9.0 0 9
Jay Koch 2 7 3.5 0 4
Greg Beatty 1 18 18.0 0 18
Rich Huffman 1 5 5.0 0 3
Jim Falmer 1 4 4.0 0 4
OSU Totals 30 611 20.4 0 79
OFF Totals 26 381 22.3 0 70

1989 OHIO STATE RESULTS (5-2, 3-1)
H-OSU 37, Oklahoma State 13* 88,670
A-OSU 3, Southern California 42* 69,876
H-OSU 34, Boston College 29* 88,936
A-OSU 14, Illinois 24- 69,088
H-OSU 33, Indiana 31* 89,750
H-OSU 21, Purdue 3* 89,091
A-OSU 41, Minnesota 37* 32,945
November 4 at Northwestern 11
11 Iowa
18 Wisconsin
22 at Michigan

SCORES BY QUARTERS
Opponents 31 65 54 39 189 27.0
Ohio State 40 67 48 30 185 26.4

OSU Defensive Statistics

FLATERS SOL AST TOT TAG-LOSS QB-SACK FRU FR FC TDS BK
Derak Isaman 31 30 61 8.5-12 1.0-6 1 1 1 0 0
Judah Herman 27 21 48 2.0-2 0 1 1 1 0 0
Zack Dumas 21 21 42 4.0-35 1.0-12 1 1 1 0 0
Pat Thomas 17 21 38 4.0-14 2.0-11 1 0 1 0 0
Strecko Zizakovic 18 14 32 5.0-30 3.0-23 1 0 1 0 0
Vinnie Clark 23 10 33 0 0 4 0 0 0 0
David Brown 21 9 30 1.0-6 0 3 0 2 0 0
Alonso Spellman 18 14 30 6.0-34 3.0-26 0 0 1 0 0
Jim Peel 15 15 30 1.5-12 1.5-12 1 0 1 0 0
Mike Showalter 9 17 26 1.5-6 1.0-4 1 0 0 0 0
Foster Faulk 10 10 20 0 0 1 0 0 0 0
Mark Pelini 11 8 19 0 0 0 1 0 0 0
Steve Tovar 8 11 19 2.0-2 0 0 0 0 0 0
Tom Lasso 13 4 17 3.0-7 0 0 0 0 0 0
Jay Koch 12 5 17 0 0 1 0 0 0 0
Rich Frimel 11 6 17 1.5-10 1.0-9 1 0 1 0 0
Bryan Cook 7 9 16 0 0 2 0 0 0 0
Ken Coleman 8 6 14 1.0-9 1.0-9 0 0 0 0 0
Darrrell Lewis 4 6 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Tony Closson 5 3 8 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Lance Price 3 4 7 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Brent Johnson 1 6 7 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Orlando Craig 2 3 5 0.5-4 0.5-4 0 0 0 0 0
Derrick Foster 1 4 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Rich Huffman 0 4 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Tim Hodrity 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Jeff Bohlman 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Scottie Graham 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Chris Stablein 1 1 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Greg Smith 0 2 2 0.5-2 0 0 0 1 0 0
Mick Shoaf 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Joe Staynsiak 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Brian Stablein 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Joe Metzger 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Corey Fargo 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
"team" 3 7-13

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Big Second Half Propels OSU To Victory

Continued From Page 1

Ohio State's Carlos Snow tried to get the Buckeyes back in the game with a 79-yard kickoff return, but it was to no avail.

With third and goal at the eight, Frey tried to change a running play to a quick pass at the line of scrimmage. Everyone except center Dan Beatty and strong guard Karl Coles heard the audible. When Beatty and Coles prepared to run block, Minnesota's Mike Sunvold ran past them and blasted Frey from behind. The football popped into the air where it was snared by Gopher Sean Lumpkin, who didn't stop until he had crossed the goal line 85 yards later.

That made it 17-0 after the first quarter. And Minnesota was not through.

The Gophers marched 73 yards in just four plays on their next possession to make it 24-0 and then intercepted Frey four plays later, setting up another touchdown that made it 31-0.

That's when the Buckeyes finally said enough is enough.

With time running out in the first half, Frey directed the offense on an 80-yard drive. The team got a break when Minnesota was caught with too many men on the field during an OSU punt, keeping the drive alive.

After that, the Buckeyes featured Snow almost exclusively with the exception of a big 30-yard reception by junior Bobby Olive, making his first appearance in two weeks.

Snow finished off the drive with a punishing one-yard run before Frey hit split end Jeff Graham in the end zone for a two-point conversion.

That made the score 31-8 and helped set the tempo for the Buckeyes' second-half return from the grave.

OSU took the third quarter's opening kickoff and drove to the Minnesota seven before settling for a field goal. Then, while the Buckeye defense was finally solving Minnesota's offensive scheme, the offense went back to work.

Starting at their own two-yard line, the Buckeyes started to gather momentum with an 11-play, 98-yard drive that got them back in the ball game. A 13-yard pass from Frey to Snow on third and seven at the OSU five-yard line was the biggest play in the drive.

After that, the Bucks picked up yardage by the chunks until Frey found Snow crossing the end zone for a 15-yard TD. Senior place-kicker Pat O'Morrow's extra point cut Minnesota's lead to 31-18.

The Gophers came back to add a 32-yard field goal from Brent Berglund, but the Buckeyes were undaunted. They marched right back up the field, thanks to a 45-yard kickoff return by freshman Dante Lee.

In just four plays, Frey found Snow again, this time in the left flat. The junior tailback took the screen and, following his blockers perfectly, turned on the jets to speed into the end zone for a 27-yard touchdown. The Frey-Snow connection worked again on the conversion, bringing the Buckeyes back within eight points at 34-26.

Once again, the Gophers countered with a Berglund field goal, seemingly putting the game out of reach with five minutes to go.

But the never-say-die Buckeyes came back again. This time Frey stayed exclusively in the air, hitting Snow first for an eight-yard gain and then finding Graham, freshman Greg Beatty and



Freshman linebacker Alonzo Spellman (99) fights off a blocker to grab for Minnesota tailback Darrell Thompson (39) while teammate Mark Pelini (48) goes low to take Thompson's legs out from under him. Thompson rushed for 133 yards and one touchdown, but the Buckeyes prevailed on the scoreboard by a 41-37 count.

freshman Brian Stablein in quick succession.

A holding penalty wiped out an eight-yard touchdown pass to tight end Jim Palmer. But Frey came right back to hit Graham with a 17-yarder that took the ball to the one and then, on fourth down, took the ball in the end zone himself on a quarterback keeper.

A two-point conversion from Frey to Graham made it 37-34 in favor of the Gophers.

Then, it was the Ohio State defense's turn to grab the spotlight. Playing with a front line that featured a host of first-year players, the Buckeyes stopped the Gophers when they absolutely had to.

After allowing four yards on first down, freshman linebacker Steve Tovar held Minnesota tailback Steve Rhem to a one-yard gain on second down and then corralled him for a one-yard loss on third down.

The Gophers' attempt to run out the clock was hampered by the Buckeyes' two remaining timeouts and the fact that Thompson had had to exit the game with a recurring knee injury after having gained 133 yards.

So, with 1:52 remaining in the contest, the Buckeyes had one last chance to win the game. They made the most of it.

Frey, who completed 18 of 23 passes for 327 yards in the second half, found a familiar target in Snow on the first play. That pass gained 18 yards, moving the Buckeyes from their own 27 to the 45.

Then Frey again connected with Stablein, who made a nifty grab over the middle for a 19-yard gain to the Minnesota 36. Then, things seemed

doomed when the Gophers' Skeeter Akre sacked Frey for a loss all the way back to the Gophers 49-yard line.

But, with the clock ticking away, Frey regrouped the Buckeyes quickly and dropped back to pass again. His primary and secondary receivers covered, the junior quarterback went to Palmer down the left sideline. The junior tight end made a good catch and then spun away from two defenders before being taken out of bounds at the 15.

Then, with just 56 seconds remaining, Frey faded back and found Graham breaking free in the right corner of the end zone. He threw a perfect strike to the junior flanker to complete the comeback.

O'Morrow added the PAT, making it 41-37.

However, while the Buckeyes celebrated on the sideline, the Gophers plotted their strategy. There were still 47 seconds left in the game.

Minnesota quarterback Scott Schaffner quickly completed a seven-yard

pass to tight end Shane Strain and then hit split end Pat Tinglehoff for gainers of 16 and 17 yards.

That gave the Gophers the ball at the OSU 22 with seven seconds left. Schaffner went for the end zone on the next play and found Rhem in the back of the end zone, behind the Ohio State coverage.

Rhem dove for the ball, but the ball bounced off his fingertips as time ran out.

The Buckeyes mauled one another in the middle of the field and then hiked all the way back down the sideline to salute their fans who had made the trip to Minneapolis.

"I've said this before, but Ohio State has the greatest fans in the world," Cooper said. "Out of the 35,000 fans who were there, I'll bet 7,000 or 8,000 of them were Buckeye fans. It was just as much a victory for them as it was for us."

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