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Fired-Up Spielman Helps Defense Blaze

By Craig James

The incentive for Ohio State was there. After all, the Buckeyes were getting ready to host the number one-ranked team in the country, which just happened to be Big Ten foe Iowa. A win over the undefeated Hawkeyes by OSU was needed in order for the Bucks to control their own destiny in terms of the conference title.

"I didn't like having Iowa come in here as a favorite," said OSU linebacker Chris Spielman. "If a guy comes to my backyard to fight me, he'd better bring an army or kill me if he wants to win. The whole defense felt that way."

THUS, WITH THOSE types of emotions running throughout the Buckeye camp, it was certain the players knew what they were up against and what they had to do.

against and what they had to do.

And after Ohio State had stunned Iowa 22-13 before a record Ohio Stadium crowd and a national television audience, OSU coach Earle Bruce remarked that his squad had "played as hard as we've played at Ohio State for a long time."

The incentive was one thing, but the motivation, according to Spielman, came from another source.

SPECIFICALLY, IT was a column in the Columbus morning newspaper that day that made the team see red. The writer wondered, among other things, if Ohio State's defensive secondary would be able to hold Iowa quarterback Chuck Long to under 1,000 passing yards.

"I know that the article written in the Citizen Journal today — well, we took that a little bit to heart," Spielman said after the game. "All year we've been hearing criticism about our defense.

"I don't care what people say about our defense. We're 7-1, you know? I had a good feeling that we'd probably play the best defensive football game we've played. I think you could see how we run to the football, cause turnovers and make things happen."

SPIELMAN SEEMED to be doing all of those things single-handedly. He was responsible for intercepting two of Long's passes and breaking up a third, and he tied fellow linebacker Pepper Johnson with a team-high 19 tackles, including one stop for a loss. For his efforts, he was named

"I hit a guy and my ear pads popped off my helmet and fell out. The referee didn't give me an equipment timeout. He said, 'Either go out or play with your helmet the way it is'

"If you know Chris Spielman, he's not going to go out (of the game). So Chuck Long rolled out to pass and my helmet was bobbing on my head, so I said, 'To hell with it.' I threw the helmet off and went after him like a dummy. I got punched in the face."

- OSU Linebacker Chris Spielman

the Buckeye Sports Bulletin Buckeye of the Week, edging safety Terry White.

"I just did what I was supposed to do," said Spielman. "I think I played a little more disciplined today.

"THIS WEEK, IT seemed like I watched three miles of film on Iowa. I became more of a technician today than I have been in past weeks. I thought I played pretty well."

He also was tired of hearing bad things said about Ohio State's defense.

"Students come up to me and say, 'What's wrong with the defense?' "he commented. "I go to eat lunch and the janitor asks 'What's wrong with the defense?'

"I SAY THAT doesn't matter to us. The important thing is that we believe in ourselves. And we do. Every one of those defensive football players has confidence in each other's ability to get the job done. And that's what we did. We pulled it together and we played a great defensive football game. A team defensive football game.

Any observer could tell that Spielman was going to have a great game judging from the first play of the game. Iowa had initial possession of the ball and Long wanted to throw to wingback Scott Helverson. The pass was broken up by Spielman, who lunged for the ball with one hand and couldn't hold on to it for an interception.

TWO PLAYS LATER, Spielman forced running back Ronnie Harmon out of bounds for a twoyard loss and the Hawkeyes had to bring their punting unit on the field.

"I think it got us off to a quick start, due to the fact that we shut them out for most of the first half," he said. "We made a commitment that we were going to play 60 minutes of football, and we did."

Spielman got his first interception later in the opening period when Long passed over the middle for tight end Craig Clark. Spielman then tried to cut upfield with the ball for a return, only to see the ball come loose when he was hit by a Hawkeye. Luckily, safety Terry White was just a step away and recovered it for OSU.

"I saw the tight end delaying,"
Spielman recalled. "Chuck Long
overthrew him and I was just there
to catch the ball. I dropped it, but
we got the ball. I tried to be a
running back like in high school.

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Chris Spielman (With Ball) Returns Interception In Fourth Quarter

Buckeye Sports Bulletin

Pre-Game Explosions Ignited Buck Fire

Young men, competing in the world of athletics, usually need very little urging to perform at their best. The smallest jab of any sort can serve only to fan the fires that are already smoldering. The Buckeyes of Ohio State, about to face Iowa, the number one ranked team in the country, found two reasons to stew shortly after dawn's early light on Nov. 2.

Which of the two explosions came first for the Bucks is immaterial. Was it the chicken or the egg? Who cares? The reasons, those which fueled the fires, were

First, or maybe it was second, was the morning paper in Columbus. Citizen-Journal columnist Bert Graeff took somewhat of a potshot at the Buckeye secondary. Personally, I don't feel the article about — or against, as they would have you believe - the Men of Brutality was that derogatory.

Graeff insinuated that the Buckeye defenders would be lucky to keep Long under 1,000 passing yards in the game.

The second reason, or maybe this one was first, was an apparent tirade by Buckeye captain Keith Byars. That's the quiet, reserved, low-keyed Keith Byars, son of a minister.

We can - and probably will jump around from one to the other among players who addressed the issues following the game. But one thing is sure, the match was struck.

"We got some bad pub in the papers today, talking about our defensive backs and talking about how Long will pass for 1,000 yards today," said linebacker Eric Kumerow. "I think we took that a little personal. We decided to go out and really kick some butts.

Wharton's View

By Jim Wharton BSB Editor

The Hawkeyes felt the sting right on the seat of their gold and black britches.

"We read the article in the paper this morning," said defensive back Greg Rogan, who had one pass interception and came up with a near-miss on another. "It said we'd be lucky to keep Chuck Long under 1,000 yards and that we'd look in the mirror and see that we might just as well throw in the towel. That just kind of psyched us up to go out there and play even harder."

And play hard they did. Iowa, with Long, the nation's leading passer as the game opened, was in for a long (get it?) day. The talented Hawkeye quarterback, who had passed for six touchdowns the previous Saturday, was harrassed into a sub-par performance, with Buckeyes swarming all over him.

Before Long and the Hawkeyes surrendered their number one ranking, Byars would have his

It was a players-only meeting around breakfast time in the hotel where the Buckeyes stow away on Friday night. Byars wanted to make a point. Knowing he would watch from the bench because his foot, reinjured a week earlier against Minnesota, had not responded, Byars grabbed center stage for a little heart-to-heart talk with his mates.

Now here's a guy who gets all the 'pub,' grabs all the headlines, all the glory. Respected by his mates? You bet. It must have been a little like the E.F. Hutton commercial.

You know, when Keith Byars hometown, into our stadium speaks, everybody listens.
"It was really something else,"

said OSU fullback George Cooper, who took up some of the slack created by Byars' absence by rushing for 104 yards in 17 carries. "Keith never loses his composure. I guess because he knew he wasn't playing, he didn't want to lose this game. He didn't want us to lose."

So, tell us, George, what

happened?
"He kind of got upset," said
Cooper of Byars. "He kicked a few
things around. That kind of showed us this game meant something. That fired us up a lot. Keith never gets upset and he got upset; a glass here, a table there. A

One report said Byars even tried the table cloth trick. You know, the one where you try to pull the tablecloth out from underneath the knifes, forks, spoons, cups and saucers, etc.

"I've never seen Keith like that," said linebacker Pepper Johnson, who shared high-tackle honors in the game with fellow linebacker Chris Spielman - each with 19 tackles. "I know he can always get his point across when he's talking to me. But he wanted to get this point across to everybody.

Byars' antics, which hopefully were controlled enough that the hotel does not send the university a bill for damages, undoubtedly served their purpose.

"I hadn't seen Keith so emotional since I've been here," said wide receiver Mike Lanese. "I can't speak for the other guys, but it sure got me fired up. He came out saying things like Chuck Long and Ronnie Harmon are two great players and Iowa's a very good football team - but we're Ohio State. They're coming into our

where we've won 19 straight — and no one should beat us at home.

The speech — with miniscule property damage like a broken glass — inspired his teammates.

"I've known him for four years and I've never seen him so excited," said Buckeye quarterback, Jim Karsatos. "It was a great speech by a great man.'

Evidently.

"Everybody was fired up," said center Bob Maggs. "When we had our meeting this morning, everybody could feel it. Some people are awed by number one. We saw the films. We knew we could beat them if we played our game.

Or, as Rogan looked at it, "We just decided that if we lost here, we wouldn't be going to the Rose Bowl and we probably wouldn't end up as Big Ten champions again.

"The captains and some of the other people just had a little pep talk and got us to come closer together as a unit."

As all of this unfolded in the interview room following the game, it was a shame that Byars had not been present to give his version of the pep talk. But, as it goes each week, reporters request those players who made significant contributions in the game. Byars, not having played, had not.

The things that go on that we usually don't hear about are amazing. It's also a wonder that all of this washed out. Those types of things are usually kept within the

But it also made for some interesting conversation. Let's hope, after the way the flames roared against the Hawkeyes, that somebody doesn't stomp out that fire. That was a real barn-burner.

Football tans take

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Cooper Rambles For 104 Yards Against Hawkeyes

'A Train' On Right Track For Buckeyes

By Jim Wharton

The 'A Train' was at the end of the line, his day complete. He had made the run. Now it was time to gather up his girl friend and slip off to Bob Evans for a quiet dinner.

George 'A Train' Cooper was going to relax and take it easy. His day's work was done. He had rambled (like the 'A Train' which goes uptown in New York, for which he was nicknamed) into the station to the noise of 104 yards in 17 carries against the top-ranked Iowa Hawkeyes.

"Finally, I got that 100 yards," said Cooper, a native of Long Island, N.Y., who had his finest day as a Buckeye in Ohio State's 22-13 victory over Iowa.

Cooper, a sophomore out of Wyandanch High School on Long Island, played an integral part in the Buckeyes' seventh win in eight outings this season. The 6-2, 238pounder chewed up the clock with his bursts up the middle.

With me running the ball, the clock will run out," said Cooper, who included runs of 27, 14 and 13 yards in his day on the tracks. "We didn't want to throw too many passes. When it's time to run the clock out, they have confidence in me. I usually don't fumble. Vince



George Cooper Hauls Iowa Tackler On 13-Yard Second-Quarter Gain

Buckeye Sports Bulletin

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(Workman) was in there and he doesn't fumble either. But he's a freshman.

The confidence the Ohio State coaching staff had in Cooper was welcomed. He knew with Keith Byars watching from the sideline with a sore foot, he would be expected to shoulder some of the

burden. "Yeah," said Cooper, who upped his season rushing total to 457 yards. "The coaches depend on me more. They tell me I've got to give it that little bit extra on my blocking and on my running. With Keith out of there, I feel a little bit of pressure, but not that much. I know what I have to do and I just try to do it."

Cooper blocks. His block on an Iowa defender gave tailback John Wooldridge the opening he needed to race 57 yards for a secondquarter score which put Ohio State

"I was isolation, me against the linebacker," said Cooper. "I guess I was the main block. John had to follow me. The linebacker really took himself out of the play and when I hit him he backed up. So John had an open way — and luckily John's fast."

And Cooper runs. He switched tracks from 'A Train' to 'Freight Train' on a couple of occasions, rambling once for 27 yards, his longest run of the year. It's a continuation of vast improvement Cooper has shown.

"I've improved about 100 percent," said Cooper. "Now I look for the holes instead of going where they are designed to go. They allow me freedom to cut back or do whatever I want. They have



George Cooper

confidence in me, so they call my play a lot.

Calling Cooper's number lately has kept the defenses from stacking up on the talented tailbacks in the Buckeye lineup.

"If they key up on me," said Cooper, "then the tailbacks will get 200 yards. So I won't mind. If they key on me, they can't key on the tailbacks. If they key on the railbacks, they can't key on me. Plus, with our passing now — we have pretty good passing — it's going to leave everything open."

Cooper is pleased that things are opening up for him. But he'd much rather stay in the shadows.

"I really don't like being in the spotlight," said Cooper, who was the first OSU fullback to rush for over 100 yards since Vaughn Broadnax gained 101 in the 1982 season opener against Baylor. "With them keying on the tailbacks, a lot of defenses, a lot of

opposing teams, don't think about the fullback too much. That's helped me a lot, getting my yardage. They think I'm just another player out there. I'm giving my all, so I should break one every now and then.

Having the chance to show his wares also is somewhat surprising

"I figured I was going to be blocking most of the season, with this being Keith's last year," said Cooper. "But since Keith's been hurt, I guess they worked me more into the offense. I was hoping to get maybe five or six carries. But it's been fluctuating between 10 and 17. That's not bad. I didn't even expect to get half that. I don't mind how many I get as long as we're winning. When we're winning, that means the coaches are calling the right plays.

But Cooper feels the Buckeyes still can improve.

"There's a lot of things we can do better. With Keith coming back, we'll probably do better, too. He's just a team by himself. So, with him back, we'll probably be that much better.'

And that much better could mean a Big Ten championship.

"I think it's really just going to give us more confidence," said Cooper of Ohio State controlling its own destiny during the remaining games. "We know we have a chance to win the Big Ten. That's going to make us play that much harder. We can't let down now. The coaches aren't going to let us let down. We've got three more to go and, hopefully, we'll do well in all three. No more '9-and-3s.'

Wooldridge Sparkling In Triumph

By Craig James

John Wooldridge was one of the reasons why Buckeye coach Earle Bruce was fretting the week of the Iowa game.

In Ohio State's game at Minnesota, Bruce's number one tailback, Keith Byars, had suffered a foot bruise on the same right foot that the senior had broken a bone in almost two months before.

Now with the top-ranked Hawkeyes coming to town, Byars was listed as "doubtful." On top of that news, Wooldridge, who had been sidelined with bruised ribs in the same game, wasn't progressing as fast as the coach had hoped. Wooldridge was "probable" for the Iowa game, but he would have to wear a flak jacket. Plans were made to start freshman Vince Workman as the number one tailback.

But as the contest with the Hawkeyes developed, it was obvious that OSU's running game needed some help. Workman was stopped for a two-yard loss on his first carry of the game. At the end of the first quarter, the Buckeyes had only gained 14 yards in eight carries, even though Ohio State's strategy had been to open it up with the pass.

Wooldridge, meanwhile, had been used only on passing plays to that point. But in the second quarter, with OSU unable to punch the ball into the end zone, Bruce decided to chat with his backup tailback.

"He said, 'Can you run?' " Wooldridge recalled. "I said, 'yes,' and he said, 'I want you to run the ball.' I said, 'Okay.



John Wooldridge (Center) Dashes Through Big Hole For Eight Yards

"He was counting on me to do something and I felt I had to answer. He put me in for a purpose - to run the ball. That's what he wanted me to do and I had to do it to the best of my ability, with or without pain."

And Wooldridge was in pain.

At game time, he figured he was only about 80 percent at the most. The way he felt the Saturday before at Minnesota, he didn't believe he would be able to play against Iowa at all. Bruce reported that Wooldridge didn't practice on Monday and Tuesday and just ran the rest of the week. He was not involved in contact practice all week, Bruce added.

"(But) on Wednesday, I was starting to believe I might get a chance to see some action," said Wooldridge. "The more the week went on and the more treatment I

got, the better I began to feel."

So the junior went in the game, right after cornerback William White had intercepted a pass from Iowa quarterback Chuck Long. After a five-yard run by fullback George Cooper to the Ohio 43, a play to feature Wooldridge was sent in.

The tailback took a handoff from Karsatos to the right to avoid noseguard Hap Peterson, then cut through the center of the line. With key blocks by Cooper and guard Jeff Uhlenhake, Wooldridge saw a hole and went for it. Free safety Devon Mitchell jumped in to get a piece of Wooldridge, but the tailback sidestepped him.

Wooldridge finished the play by running for 57 yards and a touchdown after easily beating out cornerback Nate Creer who was in pursuit.

"It was an isolation play," said Wooldridge. "George went through a man (linebacker Larry Station) and put an excellent block on him.

"The play was well executed. (Cooper) took him one way and I went the other way. I saw a gaping hole and my eyes lit up."

The one really good run that Wooldridge had was outstanding, when he cut back." said Bruce. "He's a great cutback runner and

then he had enough speed to get in the end zone.

"He played hurt. He sucked it up today to go.'

The tailback felt that was the least he could do.

"I felt real good about it, because (Bruce) had confidence in me, even though I have badly bruised ribs, said Wooldridge. "He had enough confidence in me to put me in on one run, to want me to run the ball.'

Wooldridge was injured in the fourth quarter after being tackled and stayed out the rest of the game, but he had already made his contribution to OSU's win. He finished the game with 89 yards on nine carries for a 9.9 yard average.

"(The touchdown run) psyched us up a lot, because we needed some big plays," he said. "We had plenty of chances to score, but we were just not putting the ball in the end zone like we were supposed to. We missed a couple of field goals.

"So we needed a big play, a big offensive play to get our offense really generating so we could get some points. I guess that play helped us carry over to the next quarter.

And after that, "Things were going well for us," Wooldridge said.

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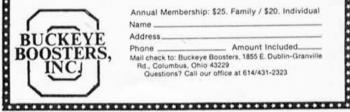
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Bucks' Team Effort Silences Hawkeyes

By Craig James Maybe this was Iowa's year.

Although the Hawkeyes had not beaten Ohio State in Ohio Stadium since 1959, they came to Columbus on Nov. 2 armed to the teeth. Iowa was undefeated (7-0) and had been ranked number one for the past five weeks. The Hawkeyes had a quarterback named Chuck Long who was first in the nation in passing efficiency and a team that was the best in the country in scoring offense, third in total defense and fifth in total offense.

Maybe that was enough to beat OSU on its home turf for once.

It wasn't.

The Buckeyes, the nation's leader in turnover margin, forced Long into throwing four interceptions and recovered an Iowa fumble on the way to a 22-13 win. The victory put OSU in a tie with the Hawkeyes for first place in the Big Ten Conference, with both squads sporting 7-1 overall and 4-1 league records.

"I think you saw a great team effort out there," Buckeye coach Earle Bruce declared, "I think the defense came back and did a great job, an outstanding job.

There had been some doubts expressed before the game about Ohio State's ability to stop Long and running back Ronnie Harmon. The Bucks were ninth in the conference in pass defense and were giving up an average of 375.7 total yards a game to opponents.

But from the very first play of the game, when linebacker Chris Spielman broke up and almost intercepted a Long pass, the stage was set for what was to be a contest filled with OSU defensive highlights.

For openers, the Buckeyes shut Iowa out in the first quarter. During the Hawkeyes' initial possession which included the Spielman play, Spielman came through again and forced Harmon out of bounds for a two-yard loss. Iowa punted and OSU set up shop on its own 31.

With tailback Keith Byars still smarting from a bruised foot suffered a week before and unable to play, in addition to backup tailback John Wooldridge still recovering from bruised ribs, Ohio State came out passing. Quarterback Jim Karsatos completed throws to flanker Mike Lanese for 18 and 21 yards, then got off another one to split end Cris Carter for a gain of 17 yards to the Iowa nine.

Then the drive stalled against Iowa's goal line defense. Two passes to Carter were broken up, and freshman tailback Vince Workman, making his first collegiate start, was stopped for a two-yard loss on his first carry of the game. The Bucks settled for a 28-yard field goal by Rich Spangler with 11:03 left, which marked the first time this season that the

Hawkeyes had been scored on in

the opening period.

Iowa had to punt again during its next turn at bat, which featured a pass deflection by middle linebacker Larry Kolic. Ohio State took the ball and zipped across the field on Karsatos-to-Carter pass plays of 18 and 30 yards which advanced the Buckeyes to the Iowa 22. Workman and fullback George Cooper got OSU as far as the Hawkeye 14 before it bogged down. An incomplete pass from Karsatos to Wooldridge brought up fourth down and two and Spangler came back to attempt a 31-yard field goal. But this time the ball went wide right.

Ohio State's defense went back to work. Spielman intercepted a Long pass during Iowa's next possession. Spielman also fumbled a moment later, but safety Terry White recovered the ball at the Hawkeye 29.

The Buckeyes held on briefly before a Karsatos pass was picked off by free safety Rick Schmidt on Iowa's own three. But the Hawks didn't get very far. On third-andfour, Kolic dropped Harmon for a four-yard loss. Gary Kostrubala, standing in the end zone, attempted to punt away, but rover Sonny Gordon, coming in from the left side, leaped high and blocked the kick. The ball bounced out of the end zone for a safety and OSU led 5-0.

The Hawkeyes were thwarted again in the second quarter when cornerback William White stepped in front of wingback Scott Helverson.

This time, Ohio State, starting at



Terry White (12) Causes Drop With Jarring Hit

its own 38, took advantage of the Cooper and guard Jeff Uhlenhake opportunity. Cooper pushed his way for five yards, then Wooldridge, on his first running play, followed key blocks by

and outraced Iowa's Nate Creer on a 57-yard touchdown dash. With

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Bruce Tickled Pink By Buckeye Victory

By Jim Wharton

The grin reached from one side of his face to the other. Earle Bruce was tickled pink. In fact, his face was a little flush from all the beaming.

Bruce, who has anything but a nine-to-five job as head football coach at Ohio State University, could not help but smile after his Buckeyes, ranked anywhere from eighth to 12th in various national polls, had knocked off Iowa. That's top-ranked in every poll Iowa.

Having just stepped off a rainsoaked Ohio Stadium carpet, Bruce was swimming in pride after his Buckeyes had sent the Hawkeyes back to Iowa City on the short end of a 22-13 score on Nov. 2.

"You saw a great effort out there today," said Bruce, addressing the largest media gathering of the season. "The defense kind of came back and did a great job. An outstanding job, intercepting the ball four times and forcing a fumble. They swarmed to the football and played well."

Bruce could not hide his emotions.

"We played as hard as we've played at Ohio State in a long time and against the number one team," said Bruce, after winning for the fourth time in five tries against Iowa. "It was a great team victory for us, a lot of effort put in by the coaching staff and the players to get that today — hard work and determination to win that football game."

Perhaps it was a special meaning for Bruce, since it was the first time an OSU team coached by him had played — and beaten — a number one ranked team in regular-season play?

regular-season play?
"One of the great victories I've ever been associated with as a coach," beamed Bruce. "Just a great effort by our football team. We played hard today. We weren't going to be denied today."

The triumph did a lot for the Buckeyes. It moved them into a tie with Iowa for first place; it snapped a nine-game Hawkeye winning streak which extended back to last year; it kept the Iowa streak of not having won in Columbus since 1959 alive and it kept the Buckeyes' home winning streak — longest in the nation among major colleges — alive at 20.

"I guess it must have been a

"I guess it must have been a hard-hitting affair because there are some injured football players on both sides. I'm sure of that," said Bruce, after the Bucks had upped their lead in the all-time series to 31-11-2. "This is the time of the year when you've got to have that. When you get into November, if you want to be a league contender, you've got to be tough

and stay healthy and play hard all the time. We played hard today. We played hard today."

Bruce was asked what he felt the victory did for his team based on the results of the other games.
"I don't know that," he said

"I don't know that," he said through somewhat clenched teeth. "What were the other results?"

Bruce knew them. He was playing it coy. But, after being appraised of the fact that Michigan and Illinois had battled to a 3-3 tie and that Michigan State had upset Minnesota, Bruce pounded his palm on the table.

"Isn't that lovely? Isn't that lovely?" he exclaimed. "This is the time of the year. This is November, when everything starts to happen. It happened last year, it can happen this year. We've just got to play strong football down the stretch run. We've got to get stronger. We normally do at the end of the season and that's good."

Do you suppose Bruce and his coaching staff had any trouble getting the Buckeyes mentally prepared for the task of taking on the Hawkeyes?

"I'll tell you what," Bruce said, raising his voice several decibels. "When you play the number one team, if that doesn't appeal to you then nothing will. They (the Buckeyes) were more intense, they

were listening a lot better, they

were really geared into the football game. They wanted to do everything right and I think they took coaching extremely well."

The Buckeyes, according to Bruce, also carried out the game plan pretty much to perfection.

"We came out wide open," said Bruce. "We didn't put the ball in the end zone as much as I would have liked, but we came out wide open. They (the Hawkeyes) adjusted well to everything we did. They made some great adjustments. About the only thing they did not adjust to was (George) Cooper, who kept us just moving the ball and running the clock and getting our yardage."

Cooper gained 104 yards in 17 carries. But it was a 57-yard touchdown run by John Wooldridge in the second quarter which proved to be the play of the game.

"The big play was Wooldridge's long run," said Bruce of a score which lifted OSU into a 12-0 lead with 9:06 left in the first half. "That's one thing you've got to get. You've got to get one of those."

Especially with all-everything Keith Byars out of the lineup after having his foot stepped on the week before in the win over Minnesota.

"We've been beating teams all

Continued On Page 16



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Players Pound Drum For Higher Ranking

There was one question posed most often in the interview room after Ohio State had knocked off top-ranked Iowa 22-13.

Are the Buckeyes not the number one team in the country?

Several members of the Buckeye

squad addressed the question.

"It's really not something to think about yet," said OSU linebacker Eric Kumerow. "You've got to go one at a time. Northwestern's next, we've got to take that first. We've got a lot of work ahead of us. Maybe if we can win these next four games, then we'll be number one in the nation. We control our own destiny now. All we have to do is just take them one by one. Win each game," added Kumerow, who had six tackles in the triumph over the Hawkeyes.

"In our minds, we're number one right now," said wide receiver Mike Lanese, who snared four passes for 63 yards. "We have the attitude, we've had the attitude all year, that

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we're number one no matter what happens. It's just a matter of time before everyone else realizes that.

"I don't know what the rankings will show and I really don't care. That's something that everyone else plays, but in our minds, we're number one," said Lanese.

"I really do. We beat the number one team. I feel that one loss (to Illinois) was just a setback and we had to get over that hump. And now we're there," said fullback George Cooper, who rushed for 104 yards in 17 carries.

OSU CENTER Bob Maggs, asked about the obvious difference in the play of the offensive line against Iowa as opposed to earlier in the season, tried to describe it.

"I think we're just playing together now," said Maggs, a junior out of Youngstown Cardinal Mooney High School. "We've got to do it now. We've just got to keep going from here. We can't have a letdown after a week like this. Northwestern is no slouch. We've just got to keep going."

just got to keep going."

Is Maggs worried about a letdown?

Continued On Page 10

The Numbers Game

Ohio State 22, Iowa 13							Season Statistics				
OWA OHIO STATE	0 5	7 10	0	6	13 22	Wooldridge 114 575	T HET AVG TD LG 9 566 5.0 6 57 3 454 4.9 3 27	PIRST DOWNS 164 17 Rushing 80 9 Passing 74 7			
OSU — Spangler 28 f	ield goal 11.	03				Workman 51 261 1 Byare 41 181	1 250 4.9 3 35 8 173 4.2 3 20	Passing 74 7 Penalty 10 MET YARDS RUSHING 1283 158			
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OSU - Wooldridge 57	7 run (Spang	(ler kick) 9				Marris 3 20	1 19 6.3 0 11 0 19 3.8 0 7	Yards Gained 1459 171 Yards Lost 176 13			
OSU — Spangler 26 f			.00			Lanese 3 21 Tupa 3 10	4 17 5.7 0 18 2 8 2.7 0 7	Average Fer Came 160.4 197. Average Fer Play 4.0 4.			
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			20			Kerestos 172 105 6 13	98 .610 14 65 11 69	Average Per Play 6.7 8. TOTAL NET GAIN 2975 307			
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Page 10 Buckeye Sports Bulletin

Badgers Take Rough Tumble After Fast Non-League Start

When the 1985 college football season began, Wisconsin coach Dave McClain said his team was young and inexperienced — but very excited.

Three games into the season and the Badgers must have been on top of the world. Wins over Northern Illinois, Nevada-Las Vegas and Wyoming and Wisconson had its best start since 1978, when the Badgers won their first four games in McClain's first year.

In posting a 7-4-1 mark last year, which included a 20-19 loss to Kentucky in the Hall of Fame Bowl, the Badgers had their fourth straight season of seven wins and their third post-season bowl appearance in four years.

"We're still not over the hump of seven-win seasons," said McClain, a former Ohio State assistant now in his eighth season at the helm. "But we are inexperienced at the right places — where you don't have to think so much."

But the walls came tumbling down when the Badgers, after that 3-0 start, lost their first four games in the Big Ten. They rebounded to nip Indiana 31-30 on Nov. 2 to even their overall log at 4-4 while standing 1-4 in conference play.

"They're picking us seventh," said McClain before the season started. "That's fair. But attitude and injuries play such a big part. We lost the most, but we're not as bare in the cupboard as people think."

Wisconsin, which faced a Nov. 9 date at Minnesota before invading Ohio Stadium to face the Buckeyes of Ohio State the following Saturday, lost 25 seniors from last season, including 15 starters.

Four receivers, four offensive linemen, four defensive backs and

School	W	L	T	Pts	Opp	W	L	T	Pte	Opp	
Ohio State	4	1	0	162	97	7	1	0	256	149	
Iowa	4	1	0	132	86	7	1	0	295	109	
Michigan	3	1	1	119	36	6	1	1	193	51	
Illinois	3	1	1	126	103	4	3	1	189	200	
Minnesota	3	2	0	133	86	5	3	0	230	130	
Purdue	2	3	0	127	145	4	4	0	229	211	
Michigan State	2	3	0	107	146	4	4	0	136	179	
Wisconsin	1	4	0	89	131	4	4	0	194	188	
Indiana	1	4	0	75	150	4	4	0	190	230	
Northwestern	1	4	0	51	141	3	5	0	133	220	

Ohio State 22, Iowa 13 Michigan State 31, Minnesota 26 Michigan 3, Illinois 3 Wisconsin 31, Indiana 20 Purdue 31, Northwestern 7 Nov. 9 schedule Ohio State at Northwestern Illinois at Iowa Wisconsin at Minnesota Michigan State at Indiana Purdue at Michigan

two defensive tackles were lost, but McClain, a native of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, remained optimistic. Because, despite those heavy losses, the Badgers returned a wealth of talented athletes at a number of key positions.

The biggest plus on the Badger scale was the return of two quarterbacks. Mike Howard, a fourth-year junior, enjoyed a solid season as the team's number one signal-caller. Howard, out of Springfield, Ill., connected on 182 of 314 passes for 2,127 yards and 11 touchdowns a year ago. His regular season completion percentage (57.9) was the second highest single-season mark in school history.

Also returning was Bud Keyes, who showed signs of greatness in spring practice

Howard started the season but was injured in the first game and was replaced by Keyes, who had completed 47 of 120 passes for 740 yards and seven touchdowns through an Oct. 26 game against Illinois. But Keyes suffered an ankle injury against the Illini and

Howard was back at the controls against Indiana.

Heading up the rushing attack is the tandem of Larry Emery and Joe Armentrout.

Emery, a 5-9, 190-pound swifty who rushed for 695 yards and five touchdowns a year ago despite missing the final five games with a knee injury, had netted 859 on 156 carries and scored eight TDs through eight games this year. Emery picked up 188 of those yards in 28 trips in the win over Indiana. Armentrout, a 6-1, 210-pound fullback who gained 325 yards in 1984, already had 545 yards and two rushing touchdowns through the Indiana game this time around.

Waiting in the wings to take over for Al Toon, Michael Jones and Thad McFadden at the receiving spots were, among others, Tim Fullington and Frederick Bobo

Fullington, a 6-3, 180-pounder, leads the squad in receptions with 18, good for 377 yards and four touchdowns. Bobo had 12 catches for 259 yards and two TDs. Tight end Scott Sharron, who caught only two passes a year ago, had 15 receptions in the first eight games.

The offensive line welcomed four returning veterans in Bob Landsee, Brian Jansen (6-5, 260), Bill Schick (6-5, 265) and David Gaatz (6-0, 232). The 6-5, 260-pound Landsee, who earned honorable mention All-Big Ten honors a year ago, was the only returning starter.

The stalwarts on the defensive line are Lance Branaman (6-3, 260), Jim Kmet (6-3, 250) and Mike Boykins (6-0, 250).

The number one defensive team against the pass in the Big Ten last year, Wisconsin has a solid group of linebackers led by Rick Graf (6-2, 210), Tim Jordan (6-4, 215), Michael Reid (6-2, 210) and Craig Raddatz (6-3, 230). All four were honorable mention all-league picks in 84. Raddatz was tied for seventh in the league in tackles while Jordan was second in the loop in tackles for losses through eight games.

Scott Cepicky handles the punting chores quite well, ranking second among Big Ten punters with a 44.6 average.

"Quotebook"

Continued From Page 6

"I hope not," he answered.
"There is a tendency, I imagine.
But I'm hoping we don't have it.
I'm just hoping we go out and keep
plugging away."

Maggs also spoke about the unsung job of an offensive lineman.

"We know they do a lot of running on their own," said Maggs of the ink-grabbing running backs. "But we know we get them past the

line. We take a lot of pride just in that. Those guys, they always give us credit. They know. I don't mind because we know we kind of help them out."

THERE ALSO was a concern about Iowa having scored a touchdown late in the first half. Perhaps the momentum had taken a change in favor of the Hawkeyes.

"We were just very determined," said Buckeye quarterback Jim Karsatos. "We didn't get overconfident or anything. We just said we've got to keep up. We've got 30 more minutes of football to play. Be consistent and make no mistakes. As long as we did that, we knew we were going to win this game."

HAVING ITS problems in the early stages of the game, the Ohio State offense might have become frustrated at times.

"We might have been," said Lanese. "But we said just keep our cool. Don't get frustrated. We knew we were moving the ball well. It was just a matter of time before we would put points on the board. We talk a lot on the field — some of it I can't repeat. But we kept telling ourselves we're still in the game. Keep working, everything will work out."

ARE THE BUCKS on the track for a national championship?

"That would be nice and that will come with the victories," said Lanese. "I don't think we're going to be thinking in those terms. If we take Wisconsin, Northwestern and Michigan one at a time, then we'll be champs; post-season accolades will come. That's something we can't control. But we can control our destiny as far as the Big Ten championship is concerned."

THE VICTORY over Iowa was a big one for the Buckeyes.

"It was a big game and it could have ended our best championship hopes," said defensive back Greg Rogan, whose interception set up an Ohio State field goal and a 15-0 second-quarter lead. "We were playing it like another Michigan game. We knew we had to be up for it."

Then, as the game progressed, Rogan and his mates heard some scores on the Ohio Stadium public address system.

"We heard Michigan tied and we heard Minnesota lost and we knew we were tied for first," said Rogan, a sophomore out of Urbana, Ohio. "It got everybody fired up. That gives us more confidence to repeat as Big Ten champions again. It's a good feeling."



Iowa Never Recovered From Early Deficit

Continued From Page 5

9:06 to go in the half, Spangler's extra point gave OSU a 12:0 lead.

Iowa tried again and failed again. Another Long pass intended for Helverson was intercepted, this time by cornerback Greg Rogan. A return of four yards put the ball on the Iowa 46.

Now the Buckeyes' running game was operating in full gear. Cooper broke tackles for gains of 15 and 13 yards. Wooldridge cut through the center for eight and OSU was soon knocking at the door.

But some unique play-calling didn't pan out. Faced with third down and four at the Iowa four, Carter took a reverse handoff, but was tripped up as he tried to pass to tight end Ed Taggart in the end zone. Carter was called for an illegal forward pass, OSU received a loss of down and Spangler came through with a 26-yard field goal, increasing the Buckeyes' advantage to 15-0 with 5:00 left.

The Hawkeyes got on the scoreboard during their last

possession before halftime, despite tackles for losses by linebackers. Mike Sullivan and Byron Lee and two broken up passes by Terry White and Rogan.

Fullback David Hudson took a screen pass from Long and picked up 20 yards, followed by a 21-yard gain by Harmon. Split end Bill Happel took a reception as far as the Ohio 11 before being stopped by tackle Darryl Lee. On fourth down and two at the Ohio three, Harmon took an option pitch and just got in at the left flag to score with 28 seconds remaining. A PAT by Rob Houghtlin left Iowa behind by just 15.7

The third quarter was all defense, with no scoring. Another good drive by Ohio State fell apart when Spangler's 29-yard field goal attempt sailed wide to the left. The Hawks, in turn, were forced to punt. The Bucks' next drive was halted when strong safety Jay Norvell intercepted a Karsatos pass and returned the ball eight yards to the Ohio 19.

With the Hawks threatening, Spielman came up with one of the most important plays of the game.

On fourth down and one at the Ohio 10, Harmon got the call and tried to leap over right guard. Spielman was there to meet him for no gain and OSU got the ball back.

On Iowa's first play of the final stanza, Long got off a pass to Helverson, who was hit hard first by Terry White, then by linebacker Derek Isaman. A fumble resulted and tackle Fred Ridder recovered the ball at the Iowa 31.

The Bucks kept it on the ground. Workman cut up the field for 15 yards on one play to the Iowa four. After being stopped for no gain, Workman took a pitch from Karsatos and just got in the end zone for OSU's final score with 11:39 to play. Spangler's kick put the Bucks on top 22-7.

But Iowa came back. The Hawks were sidetracked briefly when Rogan and Isaman broke up Long passes, but later, Rogan was called for pass interference, giving Iowa the ball on the Ohio eight. Two plays later, Hudson dove over from the two to score with 8:19 to go, closing the gap to 22-13.

The Hawkeyes decided to go for two points. Kevin Harmon took an option pitch from Long, but was stopped short of the goal line by Gordon.

Iowa was now in trouble, but Ohio State wasn't in the mood to send out any sympathy cards. On the Hawks' next drive, Terry White broke up two more Long passes and linebacker Thomas Johnson hit Kevin Harmon for a two-yard loss. Faced with fourth down and 12, Houghtlin's field goal try from 42 yards out missed the mark.

Spielman added a final defensive touch for Ohio when he made his second interception of the game, allowing the Buckeyes to run out the final minute and a half.

"I felt very proud of our football team today," said Bruce. "It was one of the finest victories I've ever been associated with as a coach. We weren't going to be denied today."

Spielman

Continued From Page 1

"That was two years ago. Sometimes I forget and I have a flashback."

That just goes to show that Spielman had come to play, even if it meant playing without a helmet.

"I hit a guy and my ear pads popped off my helmet and fell out," he smiled. "The referee didn't give me an equipment timeout. He said, 'Either go out or play with your helmet the way it is.'

"If you know Chris Spielman, he's not going to go out (of the game). So Chuck Long rolled out to pass and my helmet was bobbing on my head, so I said, "To hell with it.' I threw the helmet off and went after him like a dummy. I got punched in the face."

But there was no time to seek comfort. Spielman was needed now. He came up with a second interception that halted Iowa's last drive of the game, but he was also involved in a key play late in the

third quarter.

Iowa had intercepted a Jim Karsatos pass and had quickly moved the ball to the Ohio 10, where the Hawkeyes were faced with fourth down and one. Harmon tried to leap over the pack for the first down, only to be stopped dead in his tracks by Spielman for no gain.

gain.

"He jumped in the air and I was surprised I didn't get blocked," the linebacker said. "So I just ran through there and caught him by his legs. That was it."

Spielman's modesty could be understood. He was, as he put it, doing his job, just like the rest of the Buckeyes.

"The key to topping Iowa was our enthusiasm and our pride," he said. "Our pride was on the line at this point of the season. "Like I said earlier, we have

"Like I said earlier, we have confidence in our defense that we can play with anybody when we're playing good."

Bruce, Bucks Win Without Byars

Continued From Page 6

year without Keith Byars," said Bruce. "That's one of the strengths of our football team. We do play a team game. We feature what we can do. Obviously we had to feature (Jim) Karsatos at the beginning of the ball game to take some of the heat off of that fact.

"We miss Keith Byars. Keith Byars is a great leader, a great player and naturally his loss has meant a lot to our football team. We've had to suck it up all year without Keith Byars. So we just approached it that we had to go without him."

Without Byars in the lineup and with the nation's leading passer — Chuck Long — in town, did Bruce realistically think his squad would have much of a chance?

"We've got some great athletes of our own," said Bruce. "Everybody was telling us they're going to throw for 1,000 yards against us today. Well that didn't happen. I feel very proud of our football team. They did an outstanding job. When you see young men playing hard and they were playing hard, everyone of them—you have to be proud. "As a football coach, you're proud of the performance of a football player when he's playing as hard as he can. They all played as hard as they possibly could have today."

Thus, going against lowly Northwestern the next time out could possibly call for a letdown.

"You always have to worry about a letdown," said Bruce. "But that's our coaches' jobs; our captains' and our leaders'. We can't have that happen. Obviously, with what's happening in the world of college football, you've got to guard against a letdown."

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The View From 15th and High By Frank L. Moskowitz, BSB Publisher

Defense Reaches Potential In Critical Game

State's defense should be the key in the Buckeyes' convincing 22-13

win over Iowa.

After all, at the start of the season, the defense was highlytouted and started the campaign with a solid performance against Pitt. However, the defense had slipped badly in the following weeks, including a virtual collapse late in the Illinois game, costing the Buckeyes what could have been a perfect slate through eight games.

The defense was due. I don't think that anyone doubted that the Buckeyes could score points against Iowa. But would the Buckeyes be able to stop Chuck Long, Ronnie Harmon and

I've steadfastly maintained, throughout the course of this season, that the Buckeyes had the talent and the coaching to play solid defense. And what better time to prove it than against number one Iowa?

And the Buckeyes showed a national television audience not only that they could play good defense, but play it in the traditional Ohio State way - with some savage hitting. The third quarter play in which Terry White and Derek Isaman jarred the ball loose from Iowa receiver Scott Helverson for a fumble, and Terry White's fourth quarter smash into Quinn Early that turned a possible touchdown into an incompletion quickly come to mind.

That's the way defense should be played at Ohio State. I suspect that the Buckeyes were playing defense that way in the Horseshoe 50 years ago to the day, when OSU tangled with Notre Dame in what many call the greatest college football game of all time. The difference is, on Nov. 2, 1985, the Buckeyes came

out a winner.

EVEN THE Earle-baiters in the crowd must admit that Bruce and his staff out-coached Hayden Fry on this rainy afternoon. The Buckeyes were able to put points on the board against Iowa, and boy, they sure defensed the Hawkeyes. Chuck Long and company had defense that had been scrambled, specifically for the occasion.

And the win came without the aid of Keith Byars. Where would the Hawkeyes have been without Long or Harmon?

My only real criticism of the Bucks comes for the way they defensed Iowa's touchdown drive

in the second quarter.

The Buckeye tackling got really sloppy on that Hawkeye march, especially on a short pass to fullback David Hudson where virtually every Buck had a shot at him, but he managed a 20-yard

The breakdown may have been good for OSU, however.

If the Bucks had played a nearperfect half, Bruce would have had little to say in the locker room and OSU might have let down in the second half. This way, the Bucks gave Earle something to really scream about and I bet he did.

I can't kick about Earle choosing to sit on the ball late in the game. It was pouring rain, the Bucks had as much as a 22-7 lead and Iowa had to worry about the clock as much as Ohio State. Give the ball to 'Coooop,' (as the Ohio Stadium chants for fullback George Cooper) eat some time up, and let Tom Tupa punt. Let Chuck Long try and play catch-up in that rain against a defense that had his number all

RICH SPANGLER had what had to be considered an off-day for him, in the field goal department, missing two of four. In fact, he got chastised by Bruce on national TV, with the coach telling his kicker, "we need those points," after a

But there's an aspect of Spangler's game that deserves mention, something he has been doing very well lately.

Spangler proved long ago that he could bang kickoffs out of the end zone. And the ball was brought out to the 20. Lately, however, he has been placing the ball in areas where it has to be returned, and the Buckeyes have been making out very nicely.

On Spangler's five kickoffs

It was only fitting that Ohio little idea of how to solve a Buckeye against Iowa, the Hawkeyes returned four, getting the ball on their 19, 17, 26 and 12-yard lines. That's a net loss of six yards in field position for the Hawkeyes, compared to what they would have had if Spangler had boomed those kicks for touchbacks.

And, if you hit as hard as the Buckeyes do, there's always the chance that you will force a fumble if you make the opposition return

the kick.

In fact, on that final return, Harmon was dropped at the 12 on one of the game's hardest hits, administered by freshman John Sullivan. Two plays later, brother Mike hit Long for a two-yard loss from the middle guard spot. These Sullivan boys look like hitters, and seem the perfect types for special teams play. THE BIG WIN over Iowa was

really a big public relations boost for Ohio State. Let's face it. The Buckeyes have looked terrible on national television too many times

lately.

Here, they took on the number one team in the nation, a truly worthy opponent, and beat them in the three major areas - offense, defense, and specialty teams play. And as mentioned above, Earle out-coached Hayden Fry, a highly regarded mentor.

Not bad for a rainy day's work.

AS YOU MAY know, BSB recognizes the USA Today/CNN college football poll because of its early availability. Now, after its win over Iowa, I'm not saying Ohio State should be ranked number one. I think Florida, with only a tie to blemish its record and wins over Miami (ranked sixth), Auburn (12th), LSU (15th) and Tennessee (21st) deserves to be number one if you recognize schools on probation (I'm not sure I do, but USA Today does)

But I have to quibble with Ohio State's fifth ranking.

Penn State at number two? Maybe. They are undefeated, but the Nittany Lions barely slipped by 3-7 Boston College.

Nebraska at number three? Both the Buckeyes and Huskers are 7-1. Nebraska beat Illinois (52-25) and

the Illini beat the Bucks (31-28). But the Bucks beat Colorado by a 36-13 count, while Nebraska nipped the Buffaloes 17-7. On a week in which Ohio State beat the number one team in the country convincingly and Nebraska was beating up on 1-7 Kansas State, I give the edge to the Bucks.

Number four Air Force. Sure the Falcons are undefeated, and I loved it when they beat Notre Dame. But Notre Dame is probably the best team the Falcons have played and Purdue beat Notre Dame and Ohio State beat Purdue. I think anyone who saw Ohio State destroy BYU in the Holiday Bowl would have a hard time voting a WAC team over a Big Ten team.

But the Falcons are undefeated, you say? So are the other Falcons, those of Bowling Green, and they're ranked only 24th.

I call it Florida, Penn State (I'm in a generous mood), Ohio State. You have to remember, however, that in the USA Today poll last week, the Bucks beat 20th-ranked Minnesota on the road and dropped from 11th to 12th. Makes a lot of sense, doesn't it?

I think it all goes back to Ohio State's bad PR, as mentioned above. Are the Bucks going to improve that image this season?

DON'T YOU figure that former Buckeye Todd Bell wishes he were frolicking with 'The Fridge' and the undefeated Chicago Bears instead of waiting at home for a phone call that's not going to come. How many times have you seen agent Howard Slusher associated with a player who is involved in a needless hold-out?

SPEAKING OF USA Today, it came up with some interesting statistics (doesn't it always). You often hear about the Big Ten being a weaker conference, vis-a-vis other conferences. In a look at nonconference games, the Big Ten is listed as having the best record against non-league foes who were, at the time of the game, in the AP

top 20.
The Big Ten was 3-3. Other conferences include the ACC, 0-6-1; Big Eight, 3-4; Pac Ten, 3-4; SEC, 1-2; Southwest, 1-2; and WAC, 1-5.

Pilney Led Irish To Win In Epic '35 Struggle

Continued From Page 12

With time against them, the Irish attempted an onside kick only to have tackle Chuck Scales recover it for Ohio State.

Beltz, who today resides in Logan County, southeast of Columbus, fumbled on the first play but recovered it himself. But he repeated the miscue the next play after taking a vicious hit by - you guessed it - Pilney. The rules of the time stated that the last person to touch the ball got credit for the recovery. Notre Dame center Henry Pojman got his fingers on the ball

as it squibbed out of bounds.

The Irish were in business again at their own 49 with less than a minute to play.

Pilney, after first fading to pass, scrambled 32 yards, breaking several tackles on the way as he was brought down hard out of bounds at the OSU 19, stopping the clock with just seconds left.

Pilney didn't get up. He had suffered a severe knee injury and never played football again although he did reach the major leagues in baseball the following year with the Boston Braves. Pilney's major league career consisted

of two pinch-hit appearances in which he went hitless

Bill Shakespeare went into the game for Pilney. Right halfback Tony Mazziotti took a direct snap from center and lateralled to Shakespeare, who faded to pass. Ohio State's Beltz almost intercepted, but dropped the ball.

Repeating the same play, the Irish tallied when Wayne Millner hauled in a 19-yard pass from Shakespeare. With 32 seconds left, Notre Dame was on top.

A kickoff and one play later, the Scarlet Scourge had been beaten.