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Disappointed Linebacker Named Classic MVP

Loss Lessens Award For Spielman

By Jim Wharton

Chris Spielman stood in a corner of a crowded interview room deep in the bowels of Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. An integral force on the Ohio State defense, Spielman tried his best to hide the disappointment he was obviously feeling.

Spielman and his Buckeye mates had just lost a 16-10 decision to Alabama in the Chase Kickoff Classic, the college football season opener. He wasn't a happy young man.

INFORMED BY THIS writer that he had been named the most valuable player of the game, Spielman was not overly impressed. That is his nature. To Spielman, a junior out of Massillon, Ohio, the football capital of the Midwest, that type of reward is meaningless when the Buckeyes lose.

In listening to Spielman, it doesn't take long to find out "what are you going to do."

"The MVP award really doesn't mean too much now," said Spielman, who was credited with 16 tackles — two for losses — and had one interception as the Buckeye defense did its best to overcome mistakes by the offense against the highly touted Crimson Tide of Alabama.

"MAYBE WHEN I'M 90 years old and I'm watching the game on TV I'll say 'hey, Chris Jr., I won that MVP award a long time ago.' But it's

irrelevant now. We got beat and that's the only thing that matters in college football — winning or losing. Unfortunately we didn't win. What are you going to do? Come back and beat the Huskies."

Not that Spielman, who was also voted the *Buckeye Sports Bulletin* Buckeye of the Week, and who is an impressive physical specimen at 6-2 and 235 pounds, didn't try to beat the Crimson Tide single-handedly. He was, as usual, all over the field, making the first hit on an enemy ball carrier more often than not. He picked off a Mike Shula pass to end one Alabama drive late in the third quarter. He drove Crimson Tide running back Gene Jelks out of bounds for a two-yard loss and sacked Shula for a three-yard loss to force Alabama to settle for a field goal with just over a minute left in the game.

But the Buckeyes, given two plays thanks to defensive penalties after time had actually expired, fell inches short of possibly winning the game 17-16.

THREE MISSED FIELD goals, two pass interceptions and one fumble deep in Alabama territory snuffed out several OSU scoring opportunities. It was suggested by one writer that perhaps the defense had reason to get dejected watching the offense sputter.

"I think with some teams it (those offensive misfortunes) can affect their



Chris Spielman

game," said Spielman, a first-team All-Big Ten and honorable-mention All-American last year. "But Ohio State's a unit and if the offense doesn't play well and we lose a game, we all lost a game. If the defense doesn't play well and the offense plays great and we still lose, we all lose. It doesn't affect Ohio State."

Spielman, a team player from the word go who describes himself as a leader by example, would not think of getting down on his teammates.

"THOSE GUYS ARE some of my best friends in the world," said Spielman, who finished second to Pepper Johnson on the team in tackles last fall. "I'd cut my arm off for them right now. We made some mistakes. We made some mistakes — on offense and defense — and Alabama capitalized. Unfortunately we couldn't capitalize on Alabama's mistakes."

"It comes down to execution. They executed well and we did not. What are you going to do?"

Spielman also did not subscribe to the theory that the Buckeyes were worn down physically in the fourth quarter, a period in which the Crimson Tide overcame a 10-6 OSU lead.

"I DON'T THINK we were worn down," said Spielman. "It was just one of those things where Alabama was executing its offense. What are you going to do? What can you do? We're not worn down. We're in good shape. When you've been practicing since August 4th in 90-degree heat, you can't be worn down."

Spielman also did not think Alabama came to life in the fourth quarter.

"I thought they played well in the fourth quarter," he said. "I don't think it was that they came alive. They just capitalized on our mistakes. If we want to be a great football team, we can't make those offensive and defensive mistakes that we made."

And, despite the setback, Spielman feels the Buckeyes can become a great football team.

"I feel we're capable of beating any football team," said Spielman. "Tonight Alabama was a better football team. You've got to give them all the credit — they won the game. I give them credit — we lost. I think we were equally matched and it was a

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Winner Named

Dr. Charles Evans of Urbana, Ohio, was the winner of *Buckeye Sports Bulletin's* recent Subscriber Special Contest. Dr. Evans won a trip for two to the recent Chase Kickoff Classic that included air fare, game tickets and three nights at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City.

The winners in *Buckeye Sports Bulletin's* Season Ticket Spectacular will be announced in our next issue, to be published Sept. 16. All entries must be received in our office by Sept. 10.



Chris Spielman (36) Returns Third Quarter Theft Against Alabama

Rules Infractions Lead To Dismissals

Turmoil hit the Ohio State football team in the final week before the first game of the season.

Buckeye coach Earle Bruce, in a three-day period, had to boot two players off the team, suspend another and then face questions about another being arrested for drunken driving.

The turmoil surfaced when Bruce, just finishing up a position-by-position prospectus on his 1986 Buckeyes, shocked those in attendance at his weekly press luncheon.

"I've got an announcement to make," said Bruce, his voice almost cracking with emotion. "I have to tell you that today, and last night, I had the unfortunate experience to have to dismiss two members of our football team for good."

Bruce, who later began his eighth season as the head coach at Ohio State with a 16-10 loss to Alabama in the Chase Kickoff Classic, went on to explain that starting safety Terry White and reserve tailback Roman Bates had been dismissed from the squad and that starting outside linebacker Derek Isaman was suspended for one game.

"These dismissals and the suspension are for violating team regulations," said Bruce.

White, who has had a troubled stay at Ohio State, was to be a third-year starter in the defensive backfield. He previously ran into trouble and was left behind when the Buckeyes traveled to the Rose Bowl following the 1984 season. A fourth-year junior from Cambridge, Ohio, the 5-9, 174-pound White also sat out the Wisconsin game last season for disciplinary reasons. White also had been dismissed from the team during spring practice for what was termed as a personal financial matter.

White started at safety each of the past two seasons and had made 142 tackles and picked off seven enemy passes. His interception in the final seconds of the Florida Citrus Bowl last December helped preserve Ohio State's 10-7 win over Brigham Young.

Bates, a 6-0, 207-pound senior from Memphis, Tenn., has been plagued by injuries throughout his career at OSU. He started six games during the 1984 season but played only 14½ minutes as the Buckeyes posted a 9-3 record last year. His best year came in 1983 when, as a second-year freshman, he played in 11 games and averaged 5.5 yards per carry on 53 carries.

Besides his seemingly endless string of injuries, Bates also had a couple of brushes with the law.

First he was charged by a Worthington, Ohio, woman with gross sexual imposition. He was later

Teammates Convinced OSU Show Must Go On

The dismissal of two of their teammates and the one-game suspension of another was a blow to the members of the Ohio State football team.

But life — and football — goes on.

Buckeye boss Earle Bruce was forced to kick starting safety Terry White and backup tailback Roman Bates off the team for disciplinary reasons. Linebacker Derek Isaman was handed a one-game suspension.

"Terry will be missed," said cornerback William White, who is not related to his former defensive backfield mate. "But this is like working for a business. Coach Bruce is the boss and what he says goes. We work for him and you have to make him happy. He made a decision and now he has to live with it and the whole team has to live with it."

Buckeye roverback Sonny Gordon, a close friend of White's, said he felt the latter was caught in a predicament he could possibly have avoided.

"I really think he was a victim of circumstances," said Gordon, a Buckeye co-captain and a driving force in Terry White having found a new outlook on life through religion. "Terry was really working hard and he was really trying to mature in Christ."

Gordon said White should have turned his back and run if there was beer in his hotel room.

"After you have been in all the stuff he'd been in, the best thing for you to try to do is stay away from it," said Gordon.

But Gordon also feels the Buckeyes can survive.

"Terry was a good player, a great talent," he said. "But a good team is not built around one player, it's built around a team."

acquitted in Franklin County Municipal Court after having voluntarily removed himself from the team during the proceedings. Within hours of the verdict, Bates was charged with speeding, pleaded no contest and was fined \$100.

Isaman, a 6-3, 212-pound sophomore out of Fremont (Ohio) Ross High School, had earned a

starting spot at left outside linebacker this fall after seeing action in all 12 games and starting one in 1985.

"Derek Isaman will be suspended and will not go to New Jersey with us," said Bruce. "He will be reinstated when the team returns from the Kickoff Classic."

Bruce said he was going to spend the remaining few days prior to the Kickoff Classic looking for replacements for White and Isaman.

The evening after the dismissals and suspension were revealed, White told *Columbus Dispatch* sports writer Derek Monroe that he had been a victim of circumstances.

Bruce reportedly had found empty beer bottles under a bed in a room White and Isaman were sharing as the team stayed at a Columbus hotel prior to the start of school.

"I'd have to say no, I was not involved in alcohol," White said in the interview. "But the whole incident did have something to do with alcohol. But I can sit here and say that I was not drinking any alcohol."

White, who had been suspended from his high school team during his senior season, said he holds no grudges.

"All I can do is be a man about the whole thing and hold my head up high," he said. "I have no regrets about my playing time at OSU but I hated to see it end this way."

Bruce, having given White several chances, felt the same way.

"I don't like to kick a player off the team," he said. "It's the last step. It was a tough, tough decision."

Before the shock of the dismissals and suspension had cleared the air, Bruce had to answer questions about starting cornerback Greg Rogan being arrested near his Urbana, Ohio, hometown.

Rogan, a 5-10, 187-pound junior who had started 22 of the 24 games the Buckeyes had played in his first two years, reportedly was traveling 94 mph in a 55 mph zone. State Highway Patrol trooper Kevin Jewitt witnessed Rogan's car speeding and crossing over the center line.

After stopping Rogan, Jewitt reported he noticed the player showed signs of intoxication. Rogan was charged after refusing to take a Breathalyzer test.

While a court date was set for September, Bruce said Rogan's status would not change for the Chase Kickoff Classic game against Alabama. He started at his usual cornerback position.

Buckeye Sports Bulletin editor Jim Wharton (left) was recently presented the *Jimmy Allen Award*, given annually to a person who shows strong support for amateur athletics in Licking County, Ohio. Presenting the award to Wharton, the former sports editor of the *Newark Advocate* are current *Advocate* sports editor Mark Naegle (center) and Dick Torbert, athletic director at Licking Valley High School and president of the Licking County League board of control.



Buckeye Mistakes Disappoint Bruce

By Jim Wharton

Ohio State football coach Earle Bruce, like his counterparts in the business, will be quick to tell you that mistakes on the gridiron can be fatal.

The mistakes the Buckeyes made in a 16-10 loss to Alabama in the Chase Kickoff Classic might have caused some to want to summon the undertaker. But Bruce feels the patient will recover.

"It's tough to come up on the short end of a game like this," said Bruce, after suffering a loss in the opening game of the season for the first time since he's been at Ohio State. "But I guess we'll just have to get better as we go. We're nowhere near a good football team yet."

And, although the 68,296 in attendance at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. and the millions watching on the Raycom Television network had obviously formed their own opinions of what ailed the Buckeyes, one had to ask Bruce.

"We made too many mistakes and mistakes are very costly," said Bruce. "Where oh where to begin."

"I don't think it would take anyone very knowledgeable to tell we have to work on our kicking game," said Bruce, after his squad — and freshman kicker Pat O'Morrow — had converted only one of four field goal attempts against the Crimson Tide. "I mean we can't miss field goals and give bad field position like we gave on the kicking

game. Obviously that's got to be improved."

The kicking game lacked in a couple of areas. The first field goal attempt, which, if good would have tied the score at 3-3 midway through the first period, never had a chance because of a bad snap from Tom Moore. Holder Cris Carter scooped the ball off the artificial turf and tried to run to his right. Carter was dropped for a six-yard loss and the Crimson Tide took over.

The second attempt at a three-pointer again got started on the wrong foot with another bad snap. O'Morrow, playing in his first game as a Buckeye, got the kick off but it fell far short on a 42-yard attempt.

O'Morrow was successful on a 37-yarder with 7:20 left in the third quarter. That boot gave the Buckeyes a 10-6 lead.

The fourth attempt, on the second play of the final period, again was short and to the right.

"He can hit those," said Bruce of O'Morrow, who obviously was suffering a case of the jitters. "He just pushed them out to the right twice. He didn't snap through."

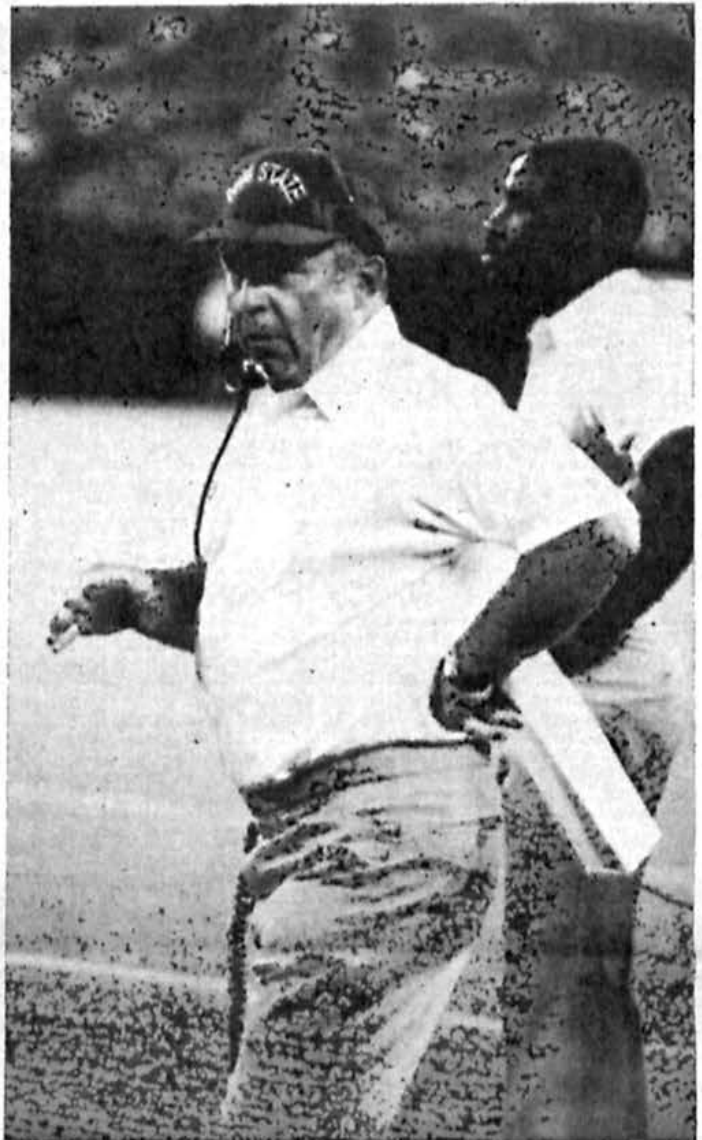
But O'Morrow could not take all the blame.

"Tom Moore's never had any problem with centering and all of a sudden we had some bad snaps that were a little erratic," said Bruce. "That's something that we're going to have to work out, too. That's terrible execution when that happens."

There also was a fumble that dealt a deadly blow to the Buckeyes' chances, fullback George Cooper coughing up the football on a first-and-goal at the Alabama nine midway through the third quarter.

"We made a mistake that was very costly, driving down to score a touchdown and we drop the ball," said Bruce, alluding to Cooper's bobble which was recovered by 'Bama defensive tackle Anthony Smith. "We couldn't get going. We got backed up

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Earle Bruce Directs Bucks At Kickoff Classic

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'Bama Won Classic Despite Adversity

It has long been said that adversity can bring out the best or the worst in athletic teams. The Alabama team which beat Ohio State in the annual Chase Kickoff Classic experienced two tragic events in the past few months and pulled together to make the best of it.

The first tragedy struck the Crimson Tide grid squad in the spring when running back George Scruggs was killed in an automobile accident. Injured in the same car crash and ruled out for the 1986 season was cornerback Vernon Wilkinson.

Then, in preparing for the game against Ohio State, defensive tackle Willie Ryles collapsed during practice and underwent brain surgery to remove a blood clot. Ryles never regained consciousness and was pronounced dead on Aug. 23.

"I wasn't easy. I think our players have shown an exceptional amount of class, fortitude and stickability," said Alabama coach Ray Perkins prior to the Kickoff Classic clash. "I am very proud of the way our team has prepared for this

football game, especially over the last week considering the circumstances."

Perkins was showing the wears of the emotional war he and his players had been fighting.

"I've gone through some tough situations," he said, "but this has been the toughest week because it (Ryles' collapse) happened on the football field."

Crimson Tide tailback Gene Jelks said after his team had beaten Ohio State that the death of Ryles, who was to be buried the day after the game, has "made us pull a little bit closer as a team. We dedicated this game to him."

Going through those emotional problems had to be very taxing.

"I'm just exceptionally proud of the character that our team has shown over the last four or five or six days in preparation," said Perkins. "Not only in preparation but in going out on the field and demonstrating."

"I think a lesser group, it would have been awfully easy to use those last four or five days as an excuse or a crutch. They did not."

Tide Boss Survives Late Scare By OSU

Whew!

That was about all Alabama football coach Ray Perkins could say after his team had escaped a last-second — and then some — Ohio State onslaught which almost changed the outcome of the Chase Kickoff Classic.

But it didn't and Perkins' Crimson Tide had a 16-10 victory.

"I'm just happy to be alive after that," said Perkins. "You've got to give our guys a lot of credit for the way they prepared and the way they handled some things we've gone through the last couple of weeks. In spite of a lot of things that go against us, I'm very proud of our kids."

Perkins, beginning his fourth year after replacing the legendary Paul "Bear" Bryant, was alluding to the death of defensive tackle Willie Ryles only four days before the Ohio State game.

"We played one of the best teams in the country and they will prove to be," said Perkins of the Buckeyes. "They were absolutely, without question, the biggest team that I've ever played against — pro or college. They've got the capabilities and I don't have any question but that they'll prove to be one of the best teams at the end of this season."

"We'll wish Ohio State the best of luck and say we're just happy to get that one over with."

Perkins obviously was having no trouble recalling the conclusion of the game, which had Ohio State taking on two extra plays after time had run out because of pass interference penalties on Alabama.

And what was Perkins thinking about as Buckeye quarterback Jim Karsatos and wide receiver Cris Carter tried valiantly to pull a rabbit out of the hat at the end?

"What was going through my mind? To get it over with," screamed Perkins. "Let's get it over with! Let's get it over with! That was all."

It was over and the Crimson Tide had prevailed.

"That game proved to me and tells me that we've got a long way to go," said Perkins, a former All-American receiver at Alabama who later played in professional football with the Baltimore Colts. "And we've got a lot of work to do to be the type of club to have a chance to at least come close to the expectations that we have and that some people have for us."

"We're not as good right now as what we expected to be."

Perkins credited his defense with making things happen. Alabama defenders picked off two Karsatos

"I'm just happy to be alive after that . . . In spite of a lot of things that go against us, I'm very proud of our kids."

— Ray Perkins

passes and recovered one Buckeye fumble.

"You've got to make things go your way, which our defense did," he said. "Our defense played great."

And so did 'Bama quarterback Mike Shula. He directed two fourth quarter scoring drives, the first which resulted in the Tide's only touchdown and the other which was capped by a Van Tiffin field goal that more or less put the game out of Ohio State's reach.

"He works at it, he's great and he's a good player," said Perkins of his senior signal caller. "Most good players get it done. He handled himself extremely well, which doesn't surprise me. He's going to do that under most every situation and he's at his best in a clutch situation because he can think clearly. He does not get overly excited and he doesn't get overly emotional. A quarterback can't. A quarterback gets overly emotional and he can't win."

"Mike Shula keeps his poise like that all the time."

Perkins was asked for his thoughts on Ohio State missing out on several key scoring opportunities.

"That happens in this game," he replied. "Every team's going to have missed opportunities. They had a couple of turnovers. But we had a couple of turnovers, also."

The Buckeyes actually came out ahead on the turnovers. Ohio State's first turnover, a pass interception by Derrick Thomas, was turned into a Tiffin field goal. But Alabama's first turnover, an interception by the Buckeyes' Sonny Gordon, became an OSU touchdown midway through the second quarter.

Perkins was just pleased to slip out of town with the win.

"I think anytime you can start a season with a victory, it has to mean more than starting with a loss," he said. "But I hope our players realize we played a very talented football team — a very big, strong football team."

"But we made too many mistakes to win against teams that we're going to have to play during the year. They (the Buckeyes) made some mistakes and I'm sure Coach Bruce is over there talking to them about the mistakes and why they lost the game."



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Karsatos Feels Squad Will Bounce Back

Ohio State quarterback Jim Karsatos was extremely cordial to a large group of media who had him backed against a wall of a lockerroom in Giants Stadium.

Karsatos was trying his best to answer questions about what went wrong as the Buckeyes suffered a 16-10 loss to Alabama in the Chase Kickoff Classic in East Rutherford, N.J.

"We really hurt ourselves," said Karsatos, a senior out of Fullerton, Calif. "I knew from the start it was going to be a great football game. I was hoping that we wouldn't make the errors that we did. That kind of hurt us."

As with everybody connected with Ohio State, Karsatos was at a loss to explain why so many opportunities to score failed during the course of the game.

"This is Ohio State," said Karsatos, who completed 20 of 31 passes for 193 yards, although having two picked off by Crimson Tide defenders. "When we get down there we expect to score. Then, when we make our own mistakes, to kill ourselves, that's something we've got to work on."

"It's frustrating," said Karsatos of the setback, "but we've got to get back to work. We've got two weeks before we go to Washington and there's a lot of things we've got to improve on."

But Karsatos came within a few additional seconds of pulling the game out with some excellent passing in the late stages of the game. Three times he heaved the ball downfield in the direction of Cris Carter; twice Alabama was called for pass interference after time had run out, giving the Buckeyes another play each time.

But the duo failed to hook up on the last one.

"It was a timing play," said Karsatos. "I just wanted to give Cris a chance. If he can't make that catch, I don't know anybody who can."

When it was all said and done, Karsatos did not feel Ohio State had lost to an inferior team.

"They're a great football team and they deserve everything," he said of Alabama. "We lost the game and they won it. We just made too many mistakes. We had a few letups and that hurt us."

"But we've got two weeks to practice and we'll come back."

CRIS CARTER faced that same mob of media and in his usual quiet voice said he, too, was perplexed by the Buckeyes' inability to take advantage of scoring opportunities.

"We had our opportunities. We should have been able to capitalize on them," said Carter, who was the primary receiver on three last-ditch passes, twice being interfered with by Bama defender Derrick Thomas and each time giving the Bucks another play after time had run out. The final play found Crimson Tide defenders Chris Goode and Britton Cooper breaking up a pass in the end zone.

"He (Thomas) really couldn't see the ball on the first one," said Carter. "He just bumped me. On the second one, he stumbled and tripped me."

"Quotebook"

And the last one?

"They made an excellent play on me," said Carter, a junior out of Middletown, Ohio. "They double-teamed me. Jim (Karsatos) made a good throw. We just didn't have it timed right."

Carter also was involved as Ohio State managed to convert only one of four field goal attempts.

The first attempt by freshman kicker Pat O'Morrow never got off the ground

after what appeared to be a bad snap from center.

"It wasn't actually a bad snap," admitted Carter. "It was just that we (he and snapper Tom Moore) were just a little bit off in our timing."

On O'Morrow's second attempt, Carter did get the ball on the tee after scooping it off the turf after another somewhat erratic snap.

But what happened was history.

"It was somewhat frustrating when we couldn't get the ball in the end zone," said Carter, who snared three passes for 56 yards in the game. "It

would have been nice if we could have won. It would have been a lot better if we'd have had a victory."

OHIO STATE did not have the services of defensive back Sean Bell in the game.

Bell, a sophomore out of Middletown, Ohio, suffered a cracked fibula in his right leg during practice for the game. The hairline fracture is expected to keep Bell out of action through the Washington game.

"I shed a few tears when I found out

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Kickers Empathize With Buckeye Frosh

By Jim Wharton

The 'foot' was missing from the football when Ohio State dropped a 16-10 decision to Alabama in the Chase Kickoff Classic on Aug. 27.

The Buckeyes came up short twice and never got off another in four field goal attempts against the Crimson Tide. Freshman Pat O'Morrow's lone successful kick was a 37-yarder midway through the third quarter.

O'Morrow probably wanted to go hide under a rock after his inauspicious start. It is not, as a couple of former Buckeye kickers recalled, a very good feeling.

"I'll tell you, I went through the same thing as he did when I came in as a freshman and started," said Rich

Spangler, who completed a four-year career with a field goal and an extra point in the Florida Citrus Bowl last December. "He was probably a little nervous, which I know of because I was in the same situation."

Billy Andrews, while not being in the position of having been a starting kicker for the Buckeyes, nevertheless is close to the situation. Andrews was a grad assistant working in the OSU recruiting office for two years and helped recruit O'Morrow.

"I sure can," replied Andrews when asked if he sympathized with O'Morrow after the Buckeye frosh did not get off his first kick because of a bad snap and also missed two others against the Crimson Tide. "Here's a kid kicking in front of probably 1,000 people at the most, maybe 1,500 in high school and then in his first college game you've got 68,000-plus and how many millions watching on TV. It's just you and the snapper and the holder. It's a tough situation to be in."

The situation on O'Morrow's first collegiate attempt became complicated when a snap from center Tom Moore to holder Cris Carter was low and bounced off the artificial turf.

"That's a timing thing," said Andrews, who was in the crowd at Giants Stadium. "I'm sure that will be worked out in practice. Cris is a new holder. That's the first time he's ever held in his life. Mike Lanese has been there for three years."

"I'm sure Pat's used to his snapper and holder in high school just like anybody else. Spangler and Lanese went three years. They were about like automatic the last two years. Rich was the same way when Mike (Tomczak) held for him (Spangler's freshman year). He (Spangler) always thought a lot of times it was the holder's fault."

"I think it's just a matter of time, working their timing out and Pat getting his confidence in the holder. That's the way it is with any new holder. I was the same way when I was at Ohio State. You're always kind of wary of a new holder."

"I haven't had a chance to talk to Pat," continued Andrews, "but when your first snap is a low snap and the hold's not there, the second time you go out there you're probably not going to do well. Instead of worrying about kicking the ball, you're maybe thinking 'well, is the hold or snap going to be there.'"

"That's the first thing I thought of when he went to kick his second ball," said Andrews, now the director of membership for the Buckeye Boosters. "He seemed to be worrying about the snap being there. I watched him the day before in practice. He missed about one out of 12 or 13 field goals. He was kicking them during pre-game and then this turns around and happens."

O'Morrow's two misses were both way short and off to the right.

"It looked like he rushed it a little bit," said Spangler, who watched the game on television from his home in Marietta, Ohio. "He didn't roll his toe over and he just pushed the ball to the right. I was sitting here at home with



OSU's Pat O'Morrow (34) Watches FG Attempt

my wife and I was telling her 'boy, I remember when I was in that situation.'"

Spangler, who signed as a free agent but was later released by the Dallas Cowboys this summer, had a streak of bad luck as a freshman. In one game against Illinois, Spangler missed his first three field goal attempts. He gained a measure of redemption with a successful 27-yard effort which helped the Buckeyes to a 26-21 victory.

"I think that's when I became a man from a boy," said Spangler, who set a Big Ten record for successful conversions (177) while at Ohio State. "I was a boy, then when I made that winning field goal, I became a man."

Andrews, who served as a backup place-kicker to Vlade Janakievski, Bob Atha and Spangler in his four years on the Buckeye squad, watched from a pretty good vantage point as O'Morrow experienced his problems.

"By the looks and the sound of it, he didn't really hit the ball solid on any of his kicks," said Andrews. "He may have gotten under the ball just a little bit — maybe from approaching the ball too fast and trying to get it off too quickly."

Both Spangler and Andrews feel O'Morrow, who converted 66 of 72 extra points and 18 of 29 field goal attempts during a three-year career at Radford (Va.) High School, can rebound from his unfortunate start.

"I think it was good that he got out there right away and got a little taste of it," said Spangler. "Now, in the next one or two weeks, he'll have all his jitters out and he'll come out and kick the ball like he can."

"Pat's going to be a great kicker for Ohio State. People have to realize — and the coaches have to realize — that he's young. He might be the greatest kicker to ever come through Ohio State. He's got the leg — nice strong leg. He kicks off well. They've just got to be patient with him."

Andrews said much the same thing. "He's a good enough kicker that I think he's going to come through," said Andrews. "I talked to him at practice on Tuesday (the day before the game).

He was a little nervous at that time. He'd been kicking great. I talked to some of the coaches and they thought he was kicking outstanding."

"But in talking to him, he was still, in the back of his mind, worried when game time came around about whether the ball was going to go through. I told him he'd kicked some big field goals in high school but this was a little bit different."

Both former Buckeyes did not think that O'Morrow would have any serious psychological problems about his first game.

"I don't think he'll have a mental letdown," said Spangler. "He was very nervous. You could see that there were a lot of people out there who were nervous — you know, first game of the year, things like that. But I don't think Pat will have any problem."

"I know Pat well. He's from the same kicking camp that I came out of. He's got a good head on his shoulders. I don't think he's going to have any psychological effects. He's young and he's going to be a good kicker."

Andrews said constant practice, repetitions as they call them, will rectify the problem.

"Going through as many repetitions as he possibly can will help," said Andrews. "Not only individuals with just two people, but as a team. He must kick as many times as he possibly can to build his confidence back up. I'm sure he'll do that. It's just a matter of sitting down, settling down, and saying 'hey, I can do the job.'"

"It's up to him."

A lot of it is mental. "What he's going to have to do," said Andrews, "is mentally he's got to go through the game thing in his mind. Regardless if you're standing in front of Coach Bruce in practice, competing for a position, he's got to put the ball through just as much as you do in front of 68,000 people."

"He's got to build a little bit of self-confidence right now. He's got the potential and physical ability to be an All-American at the Division I level. It's just a matter of having confidence in himself."

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OSU Errors Help Alabama To 16-10 Win

By Jim Wharton

It was, at least the way Ohio State viewed it, the Mistake(s) at The Meadowlands.

The Ohio State football team made too many mistakes as it opened its 1986 season on a sour note, dropping a 16-10 decision to Alabama in the Chase Kickoff Classic.

"The difference in the game was the mistakes, very costly mistakes — fumbles and a couple of interceptions," said Buckeye coach Earle Bruce after the Buckeyes, leading at one point 10-6, lost their season-opener for the first time since the 1978 squad of Woody Hayes dropped a 19-0 decision to Penn State. "When you fumble going in, that's a disaster. We had many opportunities tonight and we could not convert offensively."

"I don't think that takes anything away from the aggressiveness of Alabama's defense," continued Bruce, who failed to win his opener for the first time in his eight seasons at Ohio State. "They did a good job of defending us and forcing a lot of things that happened. But, basically, it's your own mistakes in football that kill you and it did tonight for Ohio State."

The Buckeyes began their series of misuses in the early going. Senior quarterback Jim Karsatos came out firing, hitting tailback Vince Workman out of the backfield for a nine-yard gain on the first play of the game. Alternating tailback John Wooldridge then picked up two yards for the Buckeyes' initial first down of the year.

But the next play was the kind coaches hate to see. Karsatos, trying to hook up with wide receiver Nate Harris, instead had his pass picked off by Alabama safety Ricky Thomas. The Crimson Tide, taking over at the OSU 40, were in position to take an early lead.

They did.

After picking up a first down at the Buckeye 29, Alabama had to settle for a 38-yard field goal by Van Tiffin to take a 3-0 lead less than four minutes into the game.

A 44-yard return of the ensuing kickoff by Jamie Holland had Ohio State in good field position for its second possession.

Workman went right and then cut back over the middle to pick up 17 yards on second down to give the Buckeyes a first down at the Alabama 27. Karsatos, who finished fifth in the country in passing efficiency last year, then hooked up with tight end Ed Taggart over the middle for 11 yards



Jamie Holland (6) Finds Hole For 26-Yard TD

and a first down at the 16. But two penalties on the next four plays sent out bad vibes to the Ohio State faithful in the crowd of 68,296 in Giants Stadium. A third down pass for Taggart over the middle was slightly overthrown and an offensive pass interference penalty forced the Buckeyes to try a field goal from the 27.

Freshman place-kicker Pat O'Morrow never got a chance as the snap from center Tom Moore was bad. Holder Cris Carter was drilled for a six-yard loss by the 'Bama defense as he tried to scramble.

After forcing the Tide to punt, Ohio State next took over on its own 17. The Buckeyes netted a first down at the 41 when Harris made a leaping catch of a pass from Karsatos, somehow survived a hit by 'Bama defender Kermit Kendrick and came down with an 18-yard gain.

Wooldridge and fullback George Cooper combined for 10 yards on one carry each for another first down before one of the stranger plays of the game netted the Bucks another first down. Karsatos stepped up into the

yard return by Gordon had the Bucks in business at the Crimson Tide 45 with 8:20 left in the first half.

Three plays later Holland dashed 26 yards to paydirt on an inside reverse. Holland, who did not carry the ball once in 1985 but did show three rushes in 1984, went right, used a crushing block from right tackle Larry Kotterman, cut back to his left, slipped a tackle attempt by Kendrick and slipped into the end zone with Ohio State's first touchdown of the season. O'Morrow converted and the Buckeyes led 7-6 with 7:51 remaining before intermission.

Ohio State had two more possessions in the half, punting once and having the second stopped when 'Bama freshman Vantrisee Davis picked off a Karsatos pass for Holland.

The Buckeyes dominated the third quarter. Their first possession ended in a 37-yard field goal by O'Morrow. Karsatos, who finished the evening with 20 completions in 31 attempts for 193 yards, hit on five out of six in the drive. The big plays in the advance were a 10-yard completion to Cooper and a 17-yard pickup on a throw to Carter, the latter's first catch of the year.

Things really looked bright when Alabama's Kerry Goode fumbled the ensuing kickoff and Tom Anderzack fell on it for the Buckeyes. But that possession ended when Cooper, heading over right guard on a first-and-goal at the nine, fumbled. Anthony Smith, a defensive tackle, recovered it for Alabama.

Five plays later the Bucks had the ball again when linebacker Chris Spielman leaped to intercept another Shula pass after the Crimson Tide quarterback had avoided strong pressure from Buckeye linebacker John Sullivan.

The Buckeyes punted on that possession but got the ball back two plays later when Gordon recovered a Bobby Humphrey fumble at the Alabama 26. Two false start penalties backed the Bucks up 10 yards and on

Continued On Page 15

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Injuries Took Toll On Alabama Roster

The Ohio State football team went into the Kickoff Classic in relatively good physical shape. Other than second-team defensive back Sean Bell being out with a broken leg, only minor aches and pains existed.

Alabama was not quite in the same boat. The Crimson Tide lost the services of two key players in weeks leading up to the game.

All-American linebacker Cornelius Bennett pulled a hamstring muscle before his team departed for New Jersey.

Bennett, a 6-4, 235-pounder who is being touted as a first-round NFL draft choice next spring, did not play against the Buckeyes and also was doubtful for the Tide's regular-season opener against Vanderbilt on Sept. 6.

Derrick Thomas, a 6-2, 222-pound sophomore who replaced Bennett in the Alabama lineup, also missed several days of practice with a pulled hamstring.

Also out of action were safety Rory Turner, who underwent surgery for torn ligaments in his left knee less than a week before the game, and his scheduled replacement, Shon Lee, who suffered a broken elbow. Turner is doubtful for the rest of the year.

'Bama offensive tackle Hoss Johnson and center Wes Neighbors played, but at less than 100 percent.

Johnson, who stands 6-4 and tips the scales at 280 pounds, cut his foot in a swimming pool accident before fall camp opened. Neighbors, a 6-2, 250-pound senior and the son of former Alabama All-American tackle Billy Neighbors, aggravated a knee injury.

ALABAMA COACH Ray Perkins made his first appearance in Giants

Buck Beat

With Jim Wharton

Stadium since Dec. 11, 1982, when he guided the New York Giants to a 23-7 win over the Philadelphia Eagles.

In four years as head coach of the NFL Giants, Perkins compiled a 23-24 record. His best year came in 1981 when his team went 9-7 to qualify for the playoffs.

OHIO STATE saw its record in season openers fall to 82-11-4 with the loss to Alabama. The Buckeyes had not lost their first game of the year since 1978, when Woody Hayes' charges were blanked 19-0 by Penn State.

The road opener for OSU was the first since 1975 when it shut out Michigan State 21-0. The Buckeyes now are 4-4 when opening on the road, but the previous three losses came before the turn of the century. The Buckeyes have opened on the road only four times since 1900.

THE OSU players paid a visit to Yankee Stadium the night before the Kickoff Classic. While there they watched as the California Angels gained a 2-0 victory.

OHIO STATE NOW is 0-2 against Alabama. In the only previous meeting between the schools, Bear Bryant's Tide rolled over Woody Hayes and the Buckeyes 35-6 in the 1978 Sugar Bowl.

THE MATCHUP of OSU and Alabama pitted two of college football's best-known names. Over the years, Alabama has amassed 615 wins, the fourth-best total of all time. The Tide has played in 38 bowl games and

won 18 Southeastern Conference championships.

Ohio State has won 598 games (seventh best in history), captured 24 Big Ten titles and appeared in 20 bowl games. The Buckeyes own strings of 19 consecutive winning seasons and 14 straight bowl appearances.

THE DISMISSAL of Terry White and the suspension of Derek Isaman forced some position changes. John Sullivan, who was running second behind Michael Kee at one inside linebacker spot, was moved to Isaman's spot on the outside. David Brown, a second-year freshman out of Utica, N.Y., was moved into White's spot at safety.

BUCKEYE BOSS Earle Bruce and his Alabama counterpart Ray Perkins had never faced each other from opposite sides of the field. But they had worked together before. Bruce was head coach of the East team in last year's East-West Shrine game and Perkins served as an assistant.

IF OSU GOES to a bowl game this year, it would mean a 13-game season for the Buckeyes, the longest in school history. OSU has played 12 regular-season games before, posting an 8-2-2 record in 1905.

TERRY WHITE, dismissed from the Ohio State team for disciplinary reasons a week before the Kickoff Classic, reportedly will enroll at West Virginia.

White, who originally had made a verbal commitment to WVU prior to changing his mind and opting for OSU, was accepted at the school and was going to begin classes on Aug. 29.

Another report, however, said Buckeye coach Earle Bruce has refused

to sign a release for White. If Bruce holds firm on this matter, White would not be eligible for an athletic scholarship this year. He would in 1987 when, ironically, the Mountaineers travel to Columbus to take on the Buckeyes in the season opener.

"That's his prerogative," White told the *Columbus Dispatch*. "I'm looking out for Terry now. I can't sit back and worry about Earle Bruce because if I would... I probably would never play football again."

White left Ohio State—before school started—with two years of playing eligibility remaining. But if he transfers to another Division I school, he would have to sit out one of those years (1986) and lose one year.

PLAYING IN THE Kickoff Classic was a financial boost to the OSU athletic department.

According to OSU Athletic Director Rick Bay, both schools should realize a gross of more than \$600,000 if attendance surpassed 60,000—which it did with 68,296 fans showing up in Giants Stadium. Of that figure, Ohio State should gain approximately \$400,000 after expenses.

Bay said there were, however, reasons other than financial for accepting the Kickoff Classic berth. Among them were the national television exposure and the educational aspects of visiting the New York City area.

OSU QUARTERBACK Jim Karsatos came up a little short in a bid to move into seventh place on the school's all-time total yardage list.

The senior signal caller went into the season opener needing 225 yards to surpass Keith Byars (3,235), who stands sixth on the list. With 193 passing yards and three more on the ground, Karsatos now shows 3,207 total yards.

CRIS CARTER snared three passes in the Kickoff Classic, putting him at 102 in his career. Carter, only a junior, remains in fifth place on the all-time reception list, four behind Doug Donley.

PLACE-KICKER VAN Tiffin of Alabama continued his record-setting career by kicking his 97th straight extra point and three field goals against the Buckeyes.

Tiffin, a senior from Red Bay, Ala., went into the season already holding school marks for most points (234), field goals (46), single-season scoring (84 points in 1984), single-season field goals (17) and field goals in a game (4).

His 97 consecutive conversions extended Alabama's NCAA record to 156 straight without a miss. Tiffin, who has the seven longest field goals in Tide history, has not missed an extra point in his collegiate career.

TIDE QUARTERBACK Mike Shula came up a little short of passing Joe Namath and moving into fifth place on his school's all-time passing list.

Shula passed for only 83 yards against OSU, leaving him 47 yards short of surpassing the 2,714 yards of Namath. Another famous name on the 'Bama passing charts is former NFL standout Ken Stabler, who is just behind Shula with 2,196 yards.

'BAMA RECEIVER Greg Richardson also failed to pass the man just ahead of him on the school's all-time reception yardage list.

Richardson, a senior from Mobile, Ala., stands 10th on the Tide chart with 849 yards in catches. The guy just ahead of him? Tide coach Ray Perkins with 908 yards.

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The Numbers Game

Alabama 16, Ohio State 10

ALABAMA	3	3	0	10	16
OHIO STATE	0	7	3	0	10

ALA — Tiffin 38 field goal 11:21
 ALA — Tiffin 44 field goal 12:49
 OSU — Holland 26 run (O'Morrow kick) 7:09
 OSU — O'Morrow 37 field goal 7:40
 ALA — Bell 3 pass from Shula (Tiffin kick) 9:33
 ALA — Tiffin 28 field goal 1:02
 Att. — 68,296

	ALA	OSU
First Downs	17	16
Rushing	12	8
Passing	5	6
Penalty	0	2
Rushes-Yards	50-212	33-123
Passing Yards	83	193
Passes	19-11-2	31-20-2
Offensive Plays	69	64
Total Net Yards	295	316
Third Down Eff.	4-11	4-12
Punts	4-38.2	4-40.0
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	4-1
Penalties	7-55	6-40
Time Of Possession	31:27	28:33

Individual Statistics

RUSHING (Att.-Net Yds.) — ALABAMA: Jelks 15-68; Humphrey 11-50; Allen 11-43; K. Goode 8-31; Shula 5-20. OHIO STATE: Workman 13-38; Wooldridge 10-30; Holland 1-26; Cooper 5-23; Carter 1-3; Karantos 3-3.

PASSING (Att.-Comp.-Int.-Yds.-TD) — ALABAMA: Shula 19-11-2-83-1. OHIO STATE: Karantos 31-20-2-193-0.

RECEIVING (Rec.-Yds.) — ALABAMA: Allen 4-28; K. Goode 3-28; Bell 2-8; Richardson 1-10; Cross 1-9. OHIO STATE: Workman 6-47; Harris 4-36; Taggart 4-28; Carter 3-56; Cooper 2-16; Ross 1-10.

PUNTING (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — ALABAMA: Mohr 4-38.2-47. OHIO STATE: Tupa 4-40.0-44. PUNT RETURNS (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — ALABAMA: Richardson 2-7.5-15. OHIO STATE: Ross 3-5.0-8.

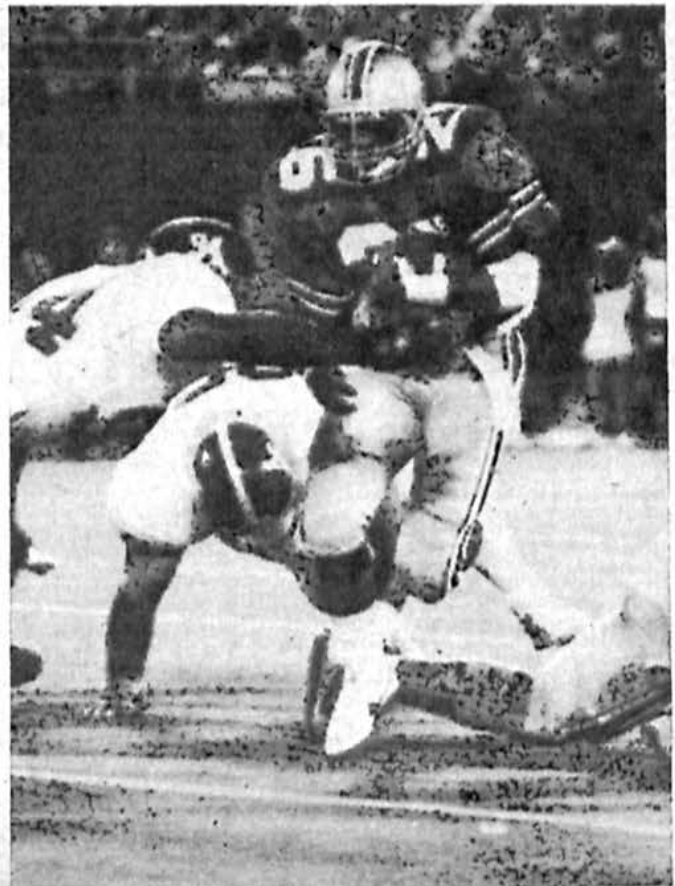
KICKOFF RETURNS (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — Goode 1-37.0-37; Humphrey 1-23.0-23. OHIO STATE: Holland 4-22.3-44; Workman 1-20.0-20.

DEFENSIVE FUMBLES RECOVERED BY — ALABAMA: Smith. OHIO STATE: Gordon, Anderzack.


INTERCEPTIONS — ALABAMA: R. Thomas, V. Davis. OHIO STATE: Gordon, Spielman.

TACKLES FOR LOSS — ALABAMA: Rockwell, Smith, D. Thomas, P. Brown, Gilbert. OHIO STATE: Spielman (2), J. Sullivan (2), Ridder.

TACKLES (Solo-Ass.-Tot.) — ALABAMA: R. Thomas 6-1-7; Rockwell 6-1-7; V. Davis 3-2-5; Godwin 3-1-4; Smith 2-2-4; Cooper 4-0-4; Jarvis 3-1-4; Slaughter 0-4-4; P. Brown 3-1-4; W. Davis 4-0-4; D. Thomas 2-1-3; Robinson 2-1-3; Sheppard 3-0-3; Hendricks 2-0-2; Gilbert 2-0-2; Richardson 1-0-1; Braggs 1-0-1; Condon 4-0-1; Mitchell 1-0-1; Holoman 1-0-1; Epps 1-0-1. OHIO STATE: Spielman 11-5-16; Gordon 7-3-10; Kee 6-3-9; Rogan 7-1-8; J. Sullivan 7-1-8; Holliman 5-1-6; Kumerow 3-1-4; Lee 3-1-4; Brown 3-0-3; Ridder 2-0-2; Higdon 1-0-1.



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Loop Brass Takes Stand On Crowd Noise

A rule that caused many headaches for Big Ten football coaches in 1985 has been clarified to make things easier in 1986.

The Big Ten Conference has clarified its rules on crowd noise in hopes of making them easier to interpret.

League supervisor of officials Gene Calhoun said Big Ten officials had trouble interpreting the crowd noise rule during the first half of last season and the questions had to be cleared up.

If you recall, the crowd noise rule became an issue last season after Iowa coach Hayden Fry complained about Ohio State's crowd being so loud that

Big Ten Notes

With Mike Wachsman

Iowa quarterback Chuck Long couldn't call plays at the line of scrimmage. Long threw four interceptions against OSU and Iowa lost 22-13.

Calhoun said, "The coaches agreed that it was more important for the offensive team to be able to hear signals than it was to penalize the

home teams. Obviously, you can't expect fans to sit on their hands and whisper, but the coaches are interested in fair and equitable play. That was the consensus and we're pleased with the coaches' attitude."

The way the rule works is this: If a quarterback complains his signals can't be heard, it's up to the referee to decide if the complaint is valid. The first action the ref can take is to stop the clock until the noise subsides. He's allowed to do that twice for both teams.

If the noise persists after two clock stoppages, the officials will go to the home team's coach to seek help in

quieting the crowd. Here's where it gets interesting. If the crowd won't cooperate, the public address announcer will be asked to read a statement prepared by the Big Ten. The statement says if the noise isn't reduced to an acceptable level, the home team could be charged with a timeout, or a five-yard penalty if it has no timeouts.

THE SEARCH FOR A permanent replacement for the late Dave McClain as Wisconsin football coach will begin early this fall, according to Athletic Director Elroy Hirsch.

"Sometime during the football season we will be posting the job of head football coach at Wisconsin," Hirsch said. "We will go through the screening process, and we hope to have the head coach in place by Dec. 1 for recruiting purposes."

Hirsch said interim coach Jim Hilles, a long-time assistant to McClain, is a strong candidate.

AS IF MICHIGAN football coach Bo Schembechler doesn't have enough to do while coaching, talk is going around that he could be Michigan's next athletic director.

Current AD Don Canham has announced he will retire effective at the end of 1987. Canham said he will step down because of university rules requiring faculty and staff to retire before or during the year they reach age 70. Canham will turn 70 on April 27, 1988.

Canham was rated the most influential AD in the country in a 1985 survey of college officials by an Arizona newspaper. He received more votes than the next three finishers combined.

WE RETURN TO BO for our quote of the week.

At Michigan's camera day, reporters were asking Bo if his squad would play with as much "resolve" as his 1985 squad, which went 10-1-1 and finished the season ranked number two in most polls.

"We won't go into this season with a soft belly, I can guarantee you that," said Bo. "Because we really didn't accomplish anything in '85. We had a darn fine squad, but we didn't win the Big Ten title."

"It's been three straight years since Michigan's won the Big Ten title, so yes, we've got resolve. The national championship won't mean that much to me. To the players, though, it would probably mean a lot. You vote on national championships, you don't play for it. But that's OK with me. I'm a poll guy."

Spielman

Continued From Page 1

good game. Unfortunately Alabama was the better team."

Spielman, by nature, will growl even harder as he and his Buckeye teammates, after a couple of days off, go about the business of preparing for a Sept. 13 trip to Seattle where they will tangle with Washington. The Kickoff Classic contest will, according to Spielman, be beneficial to the Buckeyes.

"I think it will be a little advantage, yes, that we have one game experience under our belts," said Spielman. "But being that Coach (Don) James is from Massillon, where I'm from, I know he'll be ready to go and I know he'll have his team ready to go."

"What are you going to do? We're going to be ready, also."

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Washington

Continued From Page 13

in the fall. Wiese, who started one game at left tackle last year, made the transition to guard in the spring and he is being contested by Garth Thomas (6-3, 257), a senior who started the first six games at left guard a year ago before being sidelined with a strained knee.

On defense, an all-senior cast of Reggie Rogers (6-6, 260), Steve Alvord (6-4, 262) and Steve Roberts (6-4, 238) are penciled in across the front in the Huskies' three-man defensive line.

Rogers, the younger brother of former Cleveland Browns defensive back Don Rogers, who died a tragic death earlier this summer, was a first-team all-league selection based on his 112 tackles last fall. He is already a preseason All-American according to *Football News* and is being touted for both the Outland and Lombardi awards.

"He can run, he has good quickness and he competes well," said James. "I hope he can be a dominating player because to be a good defense, we're going to need guys like that."

Two of Washington's starting linebackers — Joe Kelly and Ron Hadley — were drafted in the first five rounds by NFL teams. But all is not lost as two experienced players return.

David Rill (6-0, 218) and Bo Yates (6-0, 218), as well as part-time starter Tom Erlandson (6-2, 216) are all back for another season. All three are juniors and have grown up in the program together.

"Those three guys have got to take over," said James.

Rill, who operates at left inside linebacker, paced the Huskies in tackles last year with 187.

Washington appears to be solid at safety with Peoples (6-1, 193), Hall (6-2, 196), Allen James (6-0, 199) and Kielan Matthews (6-2, 210).

Peoples, a two-time honorable mention all-league choice, is a big-league nitter. Hall started the first two games last fall until being forced to the sidelines with a foot injury. In those two contests, Hall recorded 22 tackles, caused a fumble and recovered a fumble.

Some questions remain about the cornerback positions because of a lack of experience. Demouy Williams (5-10, 171) and Art Malone (5-10, 176) are pegged as the starters. Malone was voted the most improved defensive back in spring ball.

Jaeger and Cleland give the Huskies a veteran kicking game. Jaeger has converted 63 of 78 field goal attempts in his career and has a shot at the NCAA career record of 79. With 264 career points, he is only six short of the school's all-time scoring record. Jaeger kicked five three-pointers in one game last year and has hit two or more field goals in 21 of 33 regular-season games he has participated in.

Cleland has averaged 38.7 yards on 168 punts in his three years and big things are expected of him in 1986.

'86 Schedule

Aug.	27	Alabama, 1, 10-16
Sept.	13	at Washington
Sept.	20	Colorado
Sept.	27	Utah
Oct.	4	Illinois
Oct.	11	at Indiana
Oct.	18	at Purdue
Oct.	25	Minnesota
Nov.	1	at Iowa
Nov.	8	Northwestern
Nov.	15	at Wisconsin
Nov.	22	Michigan

Missed Field Goals Hurt Buckeye Cause

Continued From Page 7

the second play of the fourth quarter O'Morrow again came up way short on a 44-yard attempt at a three-pointer.

All of those missed opportunities must have sent out signals to Alabama that it could still bounce back. The Crimson Tide did just that.

Shula drove his team 72 yards in 12 plays for its first six-pointer. Shula, who completed 11 passes in 19 attempts for 83 yards in the game, connected with favorite receiver Albert Bell slanting over the middle for a three-yard TD pass with 9:33 left in the game. Tiffin's conversion put Alabama ahead 13-10.

The Tide then tried to clinch the verdict after taking a Tupa punt to start a drive at its own 40. Eleven plays later Alabama had a first-and-goal at the OSU five. But Spielman, voted the most valuable player of the game,

dropped first tailback Gene Jelks for a two-yard loss and then Shula for an additional three-yard loss. Shula's pass for Jelks in the left corner of the end zone was long and the Tide settled for a 28-yard field goal by Tiffin for a 16-10 lead with 1:02 showing on the clock.

The Buckeyes, who must regroup for a Sept. 13 clash in Seattle against Washington, gave it a real last-ditch effort.

Karsatos hit Workman over the middle for eight and Carter to the left for 21 and a first down at midfield. After another pass to Workman picked up five yards, Karsatos was sacked by Alabama linebacker Randy Rockwell for a three-yard loss. Eight seconds remained.

The clock ran out as Karsatos tried to hit Carter deep. But Alabama was penalized 15 yards for pass

interference by linebacker Derrick Thomas. Since a game cannot end on a defensive penalty, the Buckeyes, now snapping from the 33, got one more play.

Karsatos then hit Carter at the 18 and 'Bama — and Thomas — again was called for interference. There was, again, no time on the clock, but there was another play. One final fling toward Carter was broken up by Alabama's Chris Goode and Britton Cooper.

Maybe the Buckeyes felt they had nine lives at this point.

"I don't know about that," said Bruce. "But the fouls were committed and the penalties were called. I just wish Cris Carter could have made that catch there at the end. Then I would have been all smiles and someone else would have been crying. But it didn't happen that way."

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Ohio Offers Abundance Of Prep Talent

Editor's note: In the last issue of Buckeye Sports Bulletin, we looked at perhaps the top 24 Ohio high school football players. In this second of a two-part series, we look at the rest of the Ohio prep talent.

By Jim Wharton

While Ohio appears to offer groups of three top-notch players at most positions, as noted in the last issue, quarterback is not one of them. But there are two good ones among Buckeye state high school players being recruited by major colleges.

Scott Schaffner, a 6-3, 185-pounder at Cincinnati Moeller and Kevin Kirkpatrick, a 6-2, 180-pounder who broke several Art Schlichter records at Miami Trace, rank as the best prospects in Ohio.

Schaffner took over the starting duties at Moeller in the fifth game a year ago and finished the season having completed 111 of 195 passes for 1,599 yards and 18 touchdowns. In his 10 starts, which carried the Crusaders to the Division I state championship, Schaffner was intercepted only twice.

Kirkpatrick was the Southeastern District Class AAA Back of the Year after hitting on 82 of 151 tosses for 1,550 yards and 11 TDs.

There are other quarterbacks in the Buckeye state with unlimited potential. Whether any are Division I college prospects is uncertain this early in the season.

Best among the rest might be Richard Pierce of Mogadore. The 6-2, 185-pound Pierce guided his squad to the Division V state semifinals. He goes into his senior season with 216 completions in 411 attempts for 2,838 yards and 31 TDs.

Others to keep an eye on include Jim Vivo (6-1, 185) of Youngstown Chaney; Joe Roebuck (6-1, 190) of Bryan, who also is an outstanding baseball prospect; Frank Edie (6-3, 200) of Beloit West Branch; Mike McQueen (6-1, 195) of Cincinnati Reading; Jerry Phillip (6-0, 180) of Lima and Dion Smith (6-5, 200) of Cincinnati Northwest.

Behind Cincinnati CAPE's Carlos Snow (5-8, 195), St. Clairsville's John Spencer (5-11, 185) and Troy's Mike Delwiche (5-11, 193), Ohio's top running backs whom we touched on last issue, are a plethora of backs with possible major college potential.

Steve Gahr of Moeller might be the best. The 6-1, 235-pound fullback rushed for 740 yards in seven games last fall before being injured. Dirk Allen of Copley, a 6-2, 210-pounder, is a big tailback with explosiveness.

Doug Lewis (5-10, 180) of Middletown rushed for over 1,100 yards and scored 18 touchdowns in 1985 but grades could be his downfall. Brad Smith (6-0, 170) of Youngstown Boardman also picked up over 1,100 yards while scoring 14 times.

Dwayne Hunter (5-10, 180) of Cincinnati Princeton is one of the swiftest backs in Ohio, having been clocked in 4.4 for the 40-yard dash. A

top prospect, grades also could block his path to the big time.

A player similar to Hunter, and also from the Cincinnati area, is Aaron Kinebrew of Withrow. The 5-11, 175-pound Kinebrew has been timed at 4.5 in the 40, led the Queen City area in kickoff returns in 1985 and is an excellent (3.5) student.

Columbus Eastmoor, alma mater of such noted names as the Griffin brothers, could turn out another good one this year in Ted Johnson, a 5-10, 195-pounder. Johnson rushed for over 1,000 yards at Dayton Jefferson a year ago and also was a member of a state-record holding 400-meter relay team.

Others to watch include Bob Mason (5-10, 185) of Chillicothe; Dave McCoy (6-2, 215) of Cincinnati Withrow; Danny Ruff (6-3, 235) of Akron Buchtel; Derrick Russell (5-11, 205) of Columbus Independence, who scored 19 TDs as a junior; Jeff Singleton (5-11, 185) of Canton Timken, and Carlton Thomas (6-0, 187) of Lima.

While James Bradley (6-2, 187) of Orrville, Vince Marrow (6-3, 212) of Youngstown Cardinal Mooney and Anthony Morgan (6-1, 190) of Cleveland John Adams are regarded as the best among the available wide receivers, there are others who deserve attention.

Ken Griffey (6-2, 184) is a swift wideout at Moeller. The son of the major league baseball player with the same name, the younger Griffey reportedly possesses all the tools colleges are looking for.

Don't count out Eric Cherry (5-11, 170) of Akron East nor Mark Smith (6-1, 185) of Canton McKinley. Both have tremendous potential.

The highly touted tight ends in Ohio include Dave Diebolt (6-4, 220) of Mayfield, Michael Boykin (6-3, 215) of Dayton Jefferson and Jay Koch (6-4, 195) of Cincinnati Purcell-Marian.

Another good one is Terrance Coleman (6-3, 215) of Dayton Meadowdale, who is no relation to present Buckeye freshman Kenny Coleman of the same high school. Chris Craig (6-4, 230) of Toledo Macomber-Whitney, Jim Goode (6-5, 210) of Cleveland St. Joseph, Darryl Swafford (6-4, 215) of Clayton Northmont and Darryl Wodecki (6-5, 235) of Chagrin Falls Kenston also will draw plenty of college recruiters.

John Repasky (6-5, 260) of Youngstown Cardinal Mooney, Craig Kintz (6-6, 245) of Canton McKinley and Mike Shoaf (6-5, 270) of Orwell Grand Valley stand tall among the state's offensive linemen.

But not far behind are the likes of Dan Anderson (6-4, 245) of Kettering Alter, Bob Dahl (6-5, 233) of Chagrin Falls, Chris Hofmeir (6-5, 250) of Cincinnati Anderson, Lance Hostetler (6-4, 250) of Massillon, Matt Kriegel (6-4, 225) of Toledo Central Catholic, Steve Matheson (6-5, 260) of Fairfield, Brian McQuire (6-5, 260) of Upper Arlington, John

Monroe (6-4, 250) of Columbus Marion-Franklin, John Roberts (6-6, 290) of Urbana, Steve Rossi (6-2, 250) of Hilliard, Derek Schmidt (6-3, 240) of Worthington, Greg Seely (6-6, 250) of Cincinnati Mariemont and David Wilkins (6-5, 225) of Cincinnati Aiken.

Turning to the defensive side of the line, Andy Krupa (6-2, 230) of Centerville, Brian Tschantz (6-4, 240) of Barberton and Dallas Walker (6-3, 235) of Tallmadge are reportedly the cream of the crop.

Others to watch include Dave Boone (6-4, 240) of North Canton Hoover, Shawn Harper (6-4, 240) of Columbus Independence, Rick Jun (6-4, 268) of Toledo St. John's, Dave McQuigg (6-4, 235) of Delaware, John Savely (6-4, 230) of Columbus Watterson, John Sloboda (6-2, 245) of Marion Pleasant, Chris Stine (6-6, 268) of Toledo St. John's and Troy Treece (6-4, 240) of Van Wert.

The cast of available linebackers has Jerrod Vance (6-3, 241) of Massillon, Bill Price (6-0, 200) of Galion and Mick Schell (6-1, 220) of Sandusky Perkins playing the leading roles.

But supporting actors in this show include the likes of Tom Lease (6-4, 220) of Kenton, Pat Casey (6-0, 215) of Wadsworth, Jeff Heidemann (6-0, 211) of Cincinnati Elder, Pat Jackson (6-2, 215) of Van Wert, Jim Knecht (6-1, 220) of Cincinnati Moeller, John Ragan (6-4, 228) of Toledo St. John's, Brian Townsend (6-3, 215) of Cincinnati Northwest and Shawn Truss (6-2, 210) of Middletown.

In the secondary, Vincent Clark (6-2, 180) of Cincinnati CAPE, Tim Rutledge (5-11, 178) of Youngstown East and Jeremy Lincoln (6-1, 168) of Toledo DeVilbiss are said to be the best in the state.

But there are others being pursued. Among this group are Mike Borsala (6-0, 185) of Clayton Northmont, Richie Evans (5-11, 175) of Columbus Mifflin, Mark Fletcher (6-0, 185) of Cincinnati Princeton, Jim Habuda (6-1, 180) of Youngstown Boardman, Bart Letcavits (5-11, 165) of Massillon, Dirk Miller (6-4, 190) of Westerville North, Matt Swank (6-0, 186) of Massillon and Mike Turner (5-11, 175) of Cincinnati Withrow.

Todd Cruse of Troy and Steve Kirkwood of Paint Valley appear to be the best place-kickers in the state while Mark Abmos of Sandusky Perkins, Jason Benedict of Van Bruen, Lee Buck of Macedonia Nordon and Andy Grombacher of Toledo Central Catholic top the list of punters.

Three other players need to be mentioned at this point, lest we be accused of overlooking them. Jeff Graham of Kettering Alter, Anthony Smith of Parma Holy Name and James Stanford of Youngstown East were all discussed in the first part of this series.

Graham, Smith and Stanford are, as the experts see them, outstanding athletes capable of playing any one of several positions at the collegiate level.

"Quotebook"

Continued From Page 5

it was broken," said Bell, who accompanied the team to the Kickoff Classic and spent the game resting on crutches on the sideline. "I was hoping it was just a sprain."

The accident proved to be a real misfortune to Bell when starting safety Terry White was later dismissed from the team. Bell had advanced to the point where he was playing as the 'nickel' back in passing situations and probably would have been given a crack at replacing White.

"This is just a negative part of the game," said Bell, the younger brother of Todd Bell, former Ohio State standout and an All-Pro safety with the Chicago Bears who recently ended a holdout which had extended through the entire 1985 season.

"It's just one of those things and you've got to bounce back and keep a positive attitude. I've got to keep my head straight and stay in tune with football. That way when I'm healthy again, I can contribute to this team."

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The View From 15th and High

By Frank L. Moskowitz, BSB Publisher

On Second Look, Maybe Things Weren't So Bad

The VCR is a wonderful invention. I went back and watched a tape of the Chase Kickoff Classic and decided it was not as bad for Ohio State as I thought it was right after I first viewed the game.

Ohio State had some questions going into the game, and those questions seemed to have been answered — negatively, I might add.

There was a question about the offensive line. And the offensive line had its problems in OSU's 16-10 loss to Alabama. Anytime Vince Workman and John Wooldridge, combined, rack up only 68 yards on 23 carries for less than a 3.0 average, the offensive line is probably not blowing people off the ball. And the Bucks were flagged with some costly procedure calls that were probably caused by inexperience along the line.

There was also a question about the kicking game. Rich Spangler had departed, and Pat O'Morrow, only weeks removed from knee surgery, was called to action. Again the question was answered negatively, as the freshman from Virginia missed on three of four attempts. His missed field goals hurt not only in terms of the nine lost points, but also in terms of hindering Ohio State's momentum.

And it's hard to overlook the Buckeyes' three turnovers.

So why do I say the game was not as bad as I first thought?

First of all, let's not forget that Alabama had more turnovers and yards in penalties than the Buckeyes. Chalk some of that up to first-game jitters.

Despite all of their problems, the Buckeyes still almost defeated the

fifth-ranked team in the country. The defense was excellent, holding the Tide to only 16 points and 295 total yards. Last season, Alabama averaged 26.7 points and 380.1 total yards a game.

We at BSB have been watching the pre-season All-American lists and Alabama's Mike Shula is invariably on the list at quarterback, while OSU's Jim Karsatos is usually not.

However, Karsatos' game certainly compared well to Shula's. Karsatos was 20 of 31 for 193 yards and two interceptions, while Shula completed just 11 of 19 for 83 yards with two interceptions and a touchdown. At times he was ineffective.

As you would expect from the son of Don Shula, the younger Shula showed great poise in the fourth quarter, when Alabama put the game away. However, Karsatos showed good poise throughout the game, also.

The combination of Jim Karsatos to Chris Carter will make its mark this season. However, the OSU passing game will be that much more effective if it has a strong running game to go with it and to have that, the line is going to have to open some holes. Great Ohio State offenses are built around great offensive lines.

I take heart in the fact that the offensive line was terrible in the season opener, a 10-7 win over Pitt, last season. (OSU gained 48 yards on 39 rushes that evening.) Yet the big guys up front made rapid improvement and became a strength by the end of the season.

Our reports on O'Morrow have been excellent. If he is not emotionally scarred from his Kickoff Classic experience, he should rack up his share of points this season.

The Kickoff Classic resulted in a very disappointing loss for Ohio State. But there are 11 or 12 more games to play, and the Bucks must be concerned

with those contests now.

For years, Earle Bruce has maintained that a team's biggest improvement comes between the first and second games of the season. With a demanding road test against Washington on tap, we'll see how accurate Earle's theory is.

JAMIE HOLLAND IS certain to become an Ohio Stadium favorite. The senior out of Wake Forest, N.C., had the Giants Stadium crowd buzzing with a 44-yard kickoff return and his 26-yard touchdown run against Alabama. The 6-2, 186-pounder makes good use of his 4.34 speed.

THE LAST TIME Ohio State lost its opening game, the Buckeyes were also facing a national power and also were turnover-plagued. The Buckeyes, in Art Schlichter's first game, were crushed by Penn State in the 1978 opener, 19-0. OSU coughed up the ball eight times in that game — five times on interceptions and three times on fumbles.

I might add that the Buckeyes went on to post a disappointing 7-4-1 campaign that year, which stands as the worst Ohio State season since 1971. In fact, a certain coach ended up losing his job that year.

WHEN SEAN BELL went down with a leg injury, I did not attach that much significance to his loss.

Bruce Laments Mistakes

Continued From Page 3

and they got to moving the football and kept it. When we had an opportunity, we fumbled it away."

Or, on another possession which resulted in a missed field goal, the Buckeyes gave it away with two false-start penalties. After OSU defensive back Sonny Gordon fell on an Alabama fumble at the Crimson Tide 26, the two infractions left the Bucks with a fourth-and-11 at the 27. O'Morrow again came up short — and wide.

"We got two offside penalties and pushed the ball back," said Bruce. "You can't have that."

Despite all the negatives to that point, Ohio State almost pulled it out in the final minute. Buckeye quarterback Jim Karsatos completed three straight passes to move the ball to the Alabama 48 with eight seconds left. Two straight defensive interference penalties after time had run out gave the Bucks additional plays — each one from 15 yards closer.

The final pass for Carter was broken up by Alabama's Chris Goode and Britton Cooper.

"We're a good two-minute offensive team, too," said Bruce. "We had the ball at the end and went all the way down and weren't able to pull it out."

Bruce was asked the effects of playing a team of Alabama's caliber to open the season.

"Alabama's a good football team," he said, "but we're going to play another good football team in a couple of weeks by the name of Washington, who I know is as fine a football team as you'd like to play away from home."

"But they've (the Crimson Tide) got

However, it proved to be a bigger loss than expected when Terry White was booted off the team, along with Roman Bates, for rules infractions. Bell, a sophomore out of Middletown, Ohio, would certainly have challenged for White's spot.

Freshman David Brown earned the start and was burned on Alabama's only touchdown. Would Terry White have made the play?

That's hard to say. But, from this corner, Bruce appears to have made the right decision in giving White the boot. Those of you who have read my column through the years know that the hard hitter from Cambridge, Ohio, on the field, was one of my favorites. However, he had long ago used up his grace period and could not afford anything that even closely resembled a rules infraction.

The difference between a great football team and a 9-3 football team might just come down to mental discipline. It was right for Bruce to set a no-nonsense precedent early.

MIKE SHULA'S coach, Ray Perkins, played for Shula's dad Don when Perkins was a receiver with the Baltimore Colts. Perkins was at Baltimore from 1967-71, while Don Shula was head coach of the Colts from 1963-69, before moving to his current job with Miami.

good football players and they played well tonight. They were doing everything they had to do. They defended us exceptionally well, especially when you cross the 40-yard line. They really do come after you and do a lot of good things. They get very aggressive, they tackle well and they force the mistakes.

"I thought the Alabama team played exceptionally hard tonight. They did an outstanding job and that's why they won the football game. They forced some mistakes, which killed us."

Bruce, though, felt there were some aspects of the Buckeye game which stood out.

"I really felt our defense played hard, played well," he said. "Our offense put our defense in trouble at times and that's not the way you like to play. It certainly was a 16-10 game."

The Buckeyes must now have some hard practices before they depart for Seattle and a Sept. 13 date against Washington's Huskies.

"The most improvement in football, in my mind, always happens between the first and second games," said Bruce. "Ohio State will improve greatly between now and Washington. We have areas we can improve in. Now we'll have something to gauge into making a little effort to improve."

Bruce, in his ninth year at OSU, wanted to get out of the Big Apple area and get back home to work.

"I don't think there's much positive stuff in a loss," he said. "I just think you have to gather the forces to work a little harder and start to win. We will forget this football game when we get back and start working for Washington and snap back. That's the only thing we can do now."

Ruggieri

Continued From Page 18

"Synchronized swimming happened to be one example. Like if they were reviewing the physics department and they brought up the welding or the music departments. You know, it's the small chamber orchestra that has a lot of good PR values, but they don't make money."

"So I think that's what President Jennings said and that's what people clearly have to look at. He says we want a commitment to excellence, number one. Number two, we want opportunities for all."

"I think the issue was not synchronized swimming and Mary Jo. It was the philosophies of the president; the philosophies and the direction of Ohio State University; a commitment to excellence and educational values."

"Athletics has been a runaway horse. It wasn't my fault it got to that point and presidents started intervening. I mean, five years ago if the AD wanted to do whatever he wanted to do, he could. Five years ago I would have been crawling out of there on all fours."

Ruggieri was buoyed by the outcome. "I'm really proud of this university for standing up for it," she said.

"They're the first university in the United States to say no to some things."

86-87 Cage Slate

Nov. 29	Fla. International
Dec. 2	West. Michigan
Dec. 4	Siena
Dec. 6	Ohio U.
Dec. 8	Bowling Green
Dec. 13	Howard
Dec. 16	at Dayton
Dec. 19	vs. Florida
Dec. 20	TBA
Dec. 28	Arkansas
Dec. 29	TBA
Jan. 4	Indiana
Jan. 8	at Michigan
Jan. 10	at Michigan State
Jan. 15	Northwestern
Jan. 17	Wisconsin
Jan. 21	at Minnesota
Jan. 24	at Iowa
Jan. 29	Purdue
Feb. 2	Illinois
Feb. 5	Michigan
Feb. 9	Michigan State
Feb. 12	at Wisconsin
Feb. 14	at Northwestern
Feb. 18	Iowa
Feb. 21	Minnesota
Feb. 25	at Illinois
Feb. 28	at Purdue
Mar. 7	at Indiana

Ohio State will compete in the Gator Bowl Tournament Dec. 28-29. Besides Florida, whom the Buckeyes play in the opening round, Virginia Tech and Jacksonville are the other teams.

The Buckeyes also will participate in the Aloha Classic Dec. 28-30 in Hawaii.