

# Bruce Happy With Own Quarterback

By Frank Moskowitz

The confrontation between Ohio State and Stanford, between Art Schlichter and John Elway, was over. OSU was a 24-19 winner and Buckeye coach Earle Bruce talked about the two quarterbacks, perhaps the two best quarterbacks in the nation.

At first Bruce seemed neutral as to which quarterback might have been better. But as he continued, he seemed clearly to be happy that it is Schlichter who is his field general.

"I thought it was a good matchup, didn't you," Bruce asked rhetorically. "I thought both quarterbacks played well and I thought Art was exceptional until he wore down at the end. He went the whole business. He didn't come out for one offensive play, which is something because he's hurting," the coach said of Schlichter, who is suffering from a sprained ankle.

"But he's a mentally and physically tough young man, he's got a great competitive attitude, and don't ever count Art Schlichter out," Bruce said emphatically, "because he'll be there when it counts.

"He throws the ball as well as anybody in the country. You better believe it — just as well.

"If he had been a little bit sharper in the beginning of the ball game he would have really been great. But we weren't getting the protection in the early part of the game either. But we came on a little stronger and gave him some time and he hit some good passes.

"I thought he tired out a little bit at the end when he had to go the whole way. He did a great job under the circumstance of being about 75 percent at the end of the ball game.

"I thought the really key thing was the touchdown right before the half. That was very, very important to get that one, and we got it. That helped win the football game."

Bruce admitted that Schlichter's ankle injury forced the OSU coaching staff to make some changes.

"We had to alter some of our game plan as far as the option goes," he said. "I thought late in the ball game, that would have been a key thing for us.

"But basically, they (Stanford) did everything they could to get the ball at the end. They jammed the middle and stuck everything tight. We were trying to run the clock out and couldn't move the ball for any yardage. We sure made some slipups, but they're a good solid football team and I think everybody should recognize that."

In fact, while Ohio State appeared to lose momentum after taking a 24-6 lead, Bruce said that on the contrary, it was Stanford that *gained* momentum.

"They came back and made some great catches in the end zone. We tipped one and the other one, he

was way up in the air. Those were two outstanding catches. One was a foul tip. You don't normally see that. I thought that was a great effort out of our defender (Marcus Marek), but it went for naught."

Bruce said that despite the lead of 18 points, he was never confident of victory during the game.

"I don't ever get confident in a football game unless it's 28-0 and I have the ball in the last few seconds of the game."

The game with the Cardinals was the toughest test to date for the young Buckeye defense and Bruce seemed pleased with the outcome.

"There were several key things. I thought our pressure was pretty good, not outstanding, but pretty good and we were able to cover them most of the way.

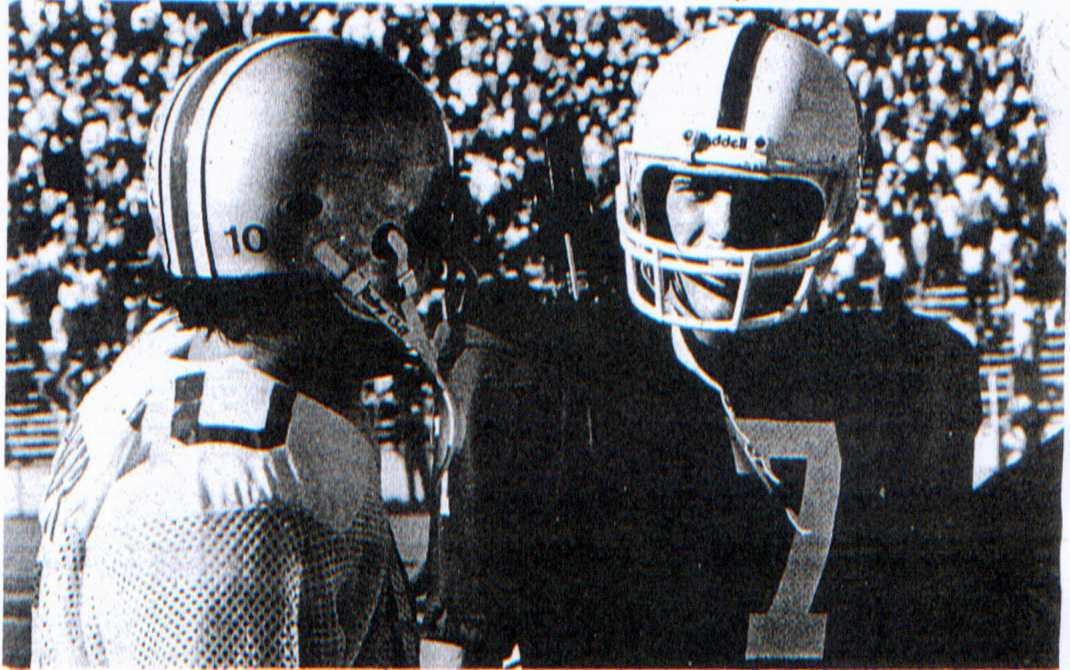
"We mixed the defense up with the nickle defense and the 3-5-3 and I thought that was good. I think we can improve."

Bruce felt the game would be a

plus for the defense.

"I think we're going to have more confidence. We come out of the coast with a victory. Everybody says you can't win on the coast. We can win on the coast, we have won on the coast, it's damned important to win on the coast, so we'd like to comeback some day, maybe."

Well Earle, there are no more coast games on the schedule this season, but there is a certain bowl game . . .



Art Schlichter (Left) And John Elway Talked Briefly After The Game

## Pro Scout's Remarks Played Down By Winner Schlichter

By Frank Moskowitz

After the celebrated duel between quarterbacks Art Schlichter and John Elway, Schlichter was informed that a pro scout had said that if the two were on the same team, Schlichter would be a substitute.

"I'm not on the same team with him," was Schlichter's reply.

Indeed he is not. Schlichter plays for Ohio State, a team that he led to victory over Elway and the Stanford Cardinals, despite playing with a gimpy ankle.

"I don't think it makes much difference," Schlichter said of the scout's opinion. "There's a different philosophy they (Stanford) use, we have a different philosophy. I just try to help my team win, that's the main thing. If we keep winning, I'll be happy.

"I had the opportunity to throw the ball a little bit more today. We threw the deeper pass. I don't know what the percentages were. Ours probably weren't as great as his (Elway's), but they used the dump

pass a lot today and did a good job with it.

"I thought we did well with the things we used, too," the senior said.

After the game, the two quarterbacking greats met for a brief conversation.

"I just told him 'nice game.' I asked him how his ankle was, he asked me how my ankle was. I'm sure he was disappointed that he lost; I was very happy that we won.

"But that's what we came here for: I wished him the best of luck for the year and he did likewise and that was about it.

"He's got a fine arm and does a lot of things well," Schlichter said of his rival. "You have to be impressed with him. He uses his back well. He's got a great back in Darrin Nelson to throw to.

"In the fourth quarter our defense gave a little bit," he continued. "But they (Stanford) had two fine plays — the tipped pass that shouldn't have been caught and the guy (Don Lonsinger) made a great catch and

the other guy (Mike Tolliver) made a great catch on the one in the end zone.

"So they had two kind of freakish plays that they scored on, but I thought overall our defense played well. They did a super job and they have to be pleased.

"We'll get back to the normal games now, where people mix the run with the pass, back where we're from.

"I thought as a team we played well, but that's what we came out here to do was play well as a team and try to win the football game, no matter how we did it, and we did it and we're happy."

Schlichter admitted that his ankle bothered him and that he was not certain how much playing time he would be able to handle. But he played the whole game and even scrambled on several occasions.

"When somebody's chasing you that's a little bigger than you are, you don't think of the pain as much."

*Defense Bends But Doesn't Break*

# Bucks Stretched To Limit By Stanford

By Jim Wharton

It was simply a case of an elasticized defense snapping into place at the most opportune time.

That would best be the way to describe Ohio State's 24-19 triumph over trigger-happy Stanford quarterback John Elway and his west coast playmates.

Elway, one of the top quarterbacks in the country, had the Buckeye defense stretching to the maximum late in the contest. He had rallied the Cardinals from a 24-6 deficit into a 24-19 disadvantage and was working on a last-ditch effort to topple OSU from the ranks of the unbeaten.

But a completion to Vincent White, which was going to bring about some kind of gain late in the fourth quarter, found White running into a vicious roll-block tackle by Ohio State's sophomore defensive back Jeff Cisco. The impact of Cisco's contact forced White to cough up the ball with an alert Marcus Marek falling on it at the OSU 46.

With 44 ticks left on the clock, the Ohio State party in sun-baked Stanford Stadium could finally breathe a sigh of relief.

It had been a hectic fourth quarter. The Cardinals, now 0-3 on the season, had narrowed the OSU lead to 24-12 six plays into the fourth period when Elway hooked up with junior split end Don Lonsinger on a four-yard pass play with 13:15 left in the game. Lonsinger made the catch after the ball was tipped by Marek. That score capped a 10-play, 80-yard drive by Stanford in which Elway completed all nine passes he threw.

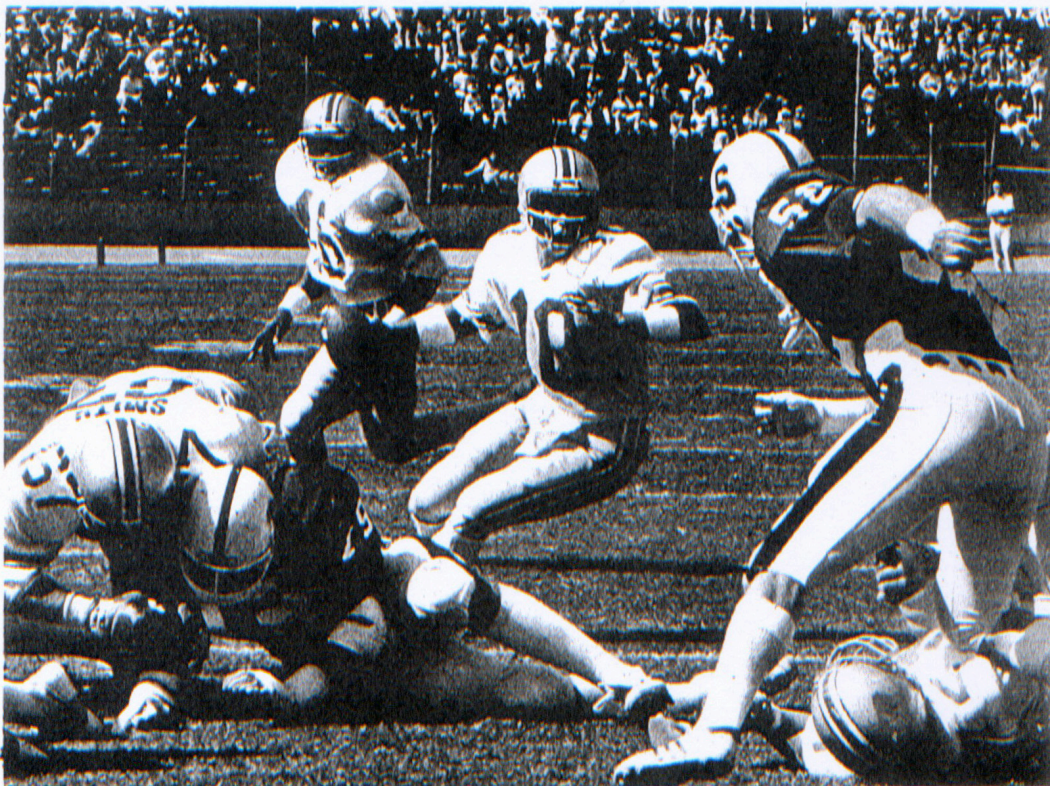
With 10:05 remaining, Stanford went on the move again.

Junior flanker Mike Tolliver made a circus catch over the Buckeyes' Shaun Gayle to end a four-play drive and cut Stanford's deficit to 24-19 with 9:00 showing on the clock.

Ohio State, in desperate need of a couple of first downs to eat at the clock, was again forced to punt. Elway connected with Darrin Nelson for no gain, but was decked by Buckeye Chris Riehm as he let go of the ball. The Stanford gunslinger was helped off the field with an already injured ankle hurting him even more.

Sophomore Steve Cottrell completed two passes, but a 15-yard holding penalty against the Cardinals and a combined sack by Cisco, Jerome Foster and Mike D'Andrea brought about a fourth-down punting situation.

Taking over with 4:03 left, Ohio State churned some valuable time off the clock by netting two first downs before having to punt. Cedric Anderson, normally employed as a wide receiver, gained 11 yards on a reverse around left end for one first down. OSU quarterback Art Schlichter, facing a third-and-11 at his own 32, then hit tailback Tim Spencer



**A Sore-Ankled Art Schlichter (10) Looks For Daylight At Stanford**

coming out of the backfield for a nifty, much-needed 17-yard gain and a first down near mid-field.

Although the Buckeyes had to punt four downs later after Schlichter was sacked for a fouryard loss on third down, the clock, now showing just 1:33, was definitely against Elway and the Cardinals.

But the talented junior signalcaller, who recently signed a professional baseball contract with the New York Yankees' organization, gave it the old college try.

Taking over on his own 17, Elway opened with a 20-yard completion to Eric Mullins. He followed that with an eight-yarder to fullback Rob Moore. With second-and-two at the 45, Elway intended his next aerial for

Tolliver but OSU freshman defensive back Kelvin Bell broke it up for a timely save. Elway's next pass was again intended for Tolliver, but was long and out of bounds.

On fourth down, and with one minute to play, Mullins netted five on the ground for a first down at the 50. But then came the pass to White, the hit by Cisco, the fumble and recovery by Marek and the Buckeyes' third win in three outings.

Stanford, which had opened its season by dropping games to Purdue and San Jose State, drew first blood when sophomore placekicker Mark Harmon booted a 25-yard field goal with 1:54 left in the first quarter. Harmon's threepointer came just three plays after Shaun Gayle narrowly

missed picking off an Elway pass.

After an exchange of punts the Buckeyes finally got untracked. The scoring drive covered 52 yards in nine plays. Jimmy Gayle dove over right tackle and into the end zone from the two to put OSU on the board at the 11:26 mark of the second stanza. The big play in the drive was a 36-yard gain on a pass play from Schlichter to Gary Williams. Helping the play work was a crunching block Gayle threw that wiped out two Stanford defenders and allowed Williams to get valuable extra yardage.

Stanford, relying chiefly on a ground attack and aided immensely by a 15-yard late hit penalty against the Buckeyes, moved from its own 21 to the Ohio

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# OSU-Stanford, Season Statistics

OSU 0 17 7 0--24  
STAN 3 3 0 13--19

STAN — Harmon 25 field goal 1:54  
OSU — Gayle 1 run (Atha kick) 11:26  
STAN — Harmon 39 field goal 7:19  
OSU — Atha 45 field goal 4:14

OSU — Dwelle 5 pass from Schlichter (Atha kick) 0:27  
OSU — Dwelle 7 pass from Schlichter (Atha kick) 2:13  
STAN — Lonsinger 4 pass from Elway (pass failed) 13:15  
STAN — Tolliver 23 pass from Elway (Harmon kick) 9:00  
A — 76,102

|                     | OSU     | STAN    |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| First downs         | 21      | 20      |
| Rushing             | 8       | 9       |
| Passing             | 11      | 10      |
| Penalty             | 2       | 1       |
| 3rd down eff.       | 7-18    | 7-17    |
| Rushes-yards        | 46-161  | 33-150  |
| Passing yards       | 240     | 280     |
| Passes              | 32-16-0 | 44-30-0 |
| Offensive plays     | 78      | 77      |
| Total net yards     | 364     | 395     |
| Interceptions-yards | 0-0     | 0-0     |
| Return yards        | 3-16    | 8-82    |
| Sacks by            | 2-11    | 4-29    |
| Punts               | 8-39.0  | 7-32.4  |
| Fumbles-lost        | 1-0     | 3-1     |
| Penalties           | 6-61    | 7-92    |
| Time of possession  | 30:29   | 29:31   |

**Individual Statistics**

**RUSHING (Att.-Yds.) — OHIO STATE:** Spencer 21-91; Dunn 6-21; Gayle 8-16; Anderson 1-11; Langley 1-10; Schlichter 9-(25); STANFORD: Nelson 13-62; White 6-37; Moore 6-17; Elway 4-13; Hooper 2-3; Cottrell 1-(7); Tolliver 1-(10).

**PASSING (Att.-Comp.-Int.-Yds.-TD) — OHIO STATE:** Schlichter 32-16-0-240-2; STANFORD: Elway 42-28-0-248-2; Cottrell 2-2-0-32-0.

**RECEIVING (Rec.-Yds.-TD) — OHIO STATE:** Williams 6-97-0; Spencer 3-40-0; Dwelle 3-34-2; Gayle 1-29-0; Langley 1-23-0; Jemison 1-12-0; Frank 1-5-0. STANFORD: Nelson 13-98-0; Mullins 4-66-0; White 4-24-0; Dressel 3-25-0; Tolliver 2-33-1; Lonsinger 2-22-1; Moore 2-12-0.

**PUNTING (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — OHIO STATE:** Alders 8-39.0-44. STANFORD: Topp 7-32.4-45.

**PUNT RETURNS (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — OHIO STATE:** Cisco 1-5-5; Lane 1-0-0. STANFORD: Nelson 4-7-4.

**KICKOFF RETURNS (No.-Ave.-Lg.) — OHIO STATE:** Spencer 1-11-11. STANFORD: Dotterer 2-43-23; St. Geme 2-32-18.

**FUMBLE RECOVERIES — OHIO STATE:** Marek, Spencer. STANFORD: Mullins, White.

**TACKLES FOR LOSSES — OHIO STATE:** Marek, Miller, Lee, Hill, Cisco, Griggs. STANFORD: Stubblefield 2, Rogers 2, Morze, Hall, Bergren.

**TACKLES (Solo-Ass.-Tot.) — OHIO STATE:** Marek 13-3-16; Cobb 6-3-9; Gayle 3-5-8; Miller 5-2-7; D'Andrea 4-2-6; Lane 6-0-6; Lee 5-1-6; Hill 6-1-7; Griggs 4-3-7; Bell 2-1-3; Keuchler 2-1-3; Cisco 1-1-2; Nelms 0-1-1; Tatum 1-0-1; Czynynski 1-0-1; Frank 1-0-1. STANFORD: Morze 7-6-13; Stubblefield 6-6-12; Baird 3-5-8; Summers 3-5-8; Bergren 5-3-8; Rogers 3-4-7; Hutchings 5-0-5; Williams 1-4-5; Zellmer 3-2-5; Lemon 2-3-5; Baird 3-1-4; Wimmer 3-1-4; Mitchel 2-1-3; Bates 2-0-2; Mahoney 1-0-1; Veris 1-1-2; Wyman 1-0-1; Awbrey 1-0-1; Price 1-1-2; Grissum 1-0-1; Jackson 0-1-1; Dressel 1-0-1; Teeuws 1-0-1; Dotterer 1-0-1; Mullins 0-1-1.



Contrary to popular belief, runner and receiver. In the above picture, OSU's Doug Hill (27) stops Nelson from breaking a long-gainer.

**1981 OHIO STATE FOOTBALL STATISTICS**

|                         | OPP.      | OHIO       |            |           |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Points                  | 45        | 85         |            |           |           |
| Touchdowns              | 5         | 11         |            |           |           |
| EXP-1 (Att-Made)        | 4-3       | 10-10      |            |           |           |
| EXP-2 (Att-Made)        | 1-0       | 1-0        |            |           |           |
| FG (Att-Made)           | 4-4       | 4-4        |            |           |           |
| Avg Pts Per Game        | 15.0      | 28.3       |            |           |           |
| First Downs             | 55        | 66         |            |           |           |
| By Rushing              | 20        | 31         |            |           |           |
| By Passing              | 29        | 29         |            |           |           |
| By Penalty              | 6         | 6          |            |           |           |
| Net Yards Rushing       | 264       | 621        |            |           |           |
| Attempts                | 95        | 148        |            |           |           |
| Yards Gained            | 357       | 690        |            |           |           |
| Yards Lost              | 93        | 69         |            |           |           |
| Rushing Touchdowns      | 0         | 7          |            |           |           |
| Average Per Game        | 88.0      | 207.0      |            |           |           |
| Net Yards Passing       | 753       | 614        |            |           |           |
| Attempted               | 133       | 85         |            |           |           |
| Completed               | 68        | 43         |            |           |           |
| Had Intercepted         | 6         | 4          |            |           |           |
| Passing Touchdowns      | 5         | 4          |            |           |           |
| Average Per Game        | 251.0     | 204.6      |            |           |           |
| Total Net Gain          | 1017      | 1235       |            |           |           |
| Total Plays             | 228       | 233        |            |           |           |
| Average Per Game        | 339.0     | 411.6      |            |           |           |
| Punts-Blocked           | 20-0      | 19-0       |            |           |           |
| Total Yards             | 770       | 756        |            |           |           |
| Average Per Punt        | 38.5      | 39.7       |            |           |           |
| Punt Returns            | 9         | 8          |            |           |           |
| Yards Returned          | 36        | 34         |            |           |           |
| Kickoff Returns         | 11        | 4          |            |           |           |
| Yards Returned          | 190       | 61         |            |           |           |
| Interceptions           | 4         | 7*         |            |           |           |
| Yards Returned          | 73        | 105        |            |           |           |
| Fumbles                 | 10        | 10         |            |           |           |
| Lost                    | 4         | 1          |            |           |           |
| Penalties               | 18        | 23         |            |           |           |
| Yards                   | 189       | 211        |            |           |           |
| Third Down Efficiency   | 19-51     | 16-45      |            |           |           |
| Time of Possession(Avg) | 28:33     | 31:27      |            |           |           |
| Score By Quarters       |           |            |            |           |           |
|                         | 1         | 2          | 3          | 4         | Total     |
| Opponents               | 3         | 16         | 7          | 19        | 45        |
| Ohio State              | 14        | 34         | 21         | 16        | 85        |
| <b>PUNTING</b>          | <b>NO</b> | <b>YDS</b> | <b>AVG</b> | <b>LG</b> | <b>BL</b> |
| Alders                  | 12        | 446        | 37.1       | 48        | 0         |
| Atha                    | 7         | 310        | 44.2       | 58        | 0         |

Won 3, Lost 0

|            | RUSHING | ATT | COMP | INT | YDS  | PCT | TD | LG |
|------------|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|----|----|
| Spencer    | 60      | 358 | 2    | 356 | 5.9  | 4   | 82 |    |
| J.Gayle    | 32      | 99  | 5    | 94  | 2.9  | 1   | 12 |    |
| Atha       | 10      | 62  | 0    | 62  | 6.2  | 1   | 27 |    |
| Broadnax   | 12      | 45  | 0    | 45  | 3.7  | 0   | 6  |    |
| Schlichter | 26      | 83  | 61   | 22  | 0.8  | 1   | 16 |    |
| Dunn       | 6       | 22  | 1    | 21  | 3.5  | 0   | 10 |    |
| Anderson   | 1       | 11  | 0    | 11  | 11.0 | 0   | 11 |    |
| Langley    | 1       | 10  | 0    | 10  | 10.0 | 0   | 10 |    |

|            | PASSING | ATT | COMP | INT | YDS  | PCT | TD | LG |
|------------|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|----|----|
| Schlichter | 75      | 40  | 2    | 589 | .530 | 4   | 49 |    |
| Atha       | 10      | 3   | 2    | 25  | .300 | 0   | 16 |    |

|          | RECEIVING | NO  | YDS  | AVG | TD | LG |
|----------|-----------|-----|------|-----|----|----|
| Williams | 12        | 250 | 20.0 | 1   | 49 |    |
| Frank    | 8         | 57  | 7.1  | 0   | 16 |    |
| Spencer  | 6         | 74  | 12.3 | 0   | 19 |    |
| J.Gayle  | 5         | 67  | 13.4 | 0   | 29 |    |
| Langley  | 4         | 71  | 17.7 | 0   | 23 |    |
| Dwelle   | 4         | 52  | 13.0 | 2   | 22 |    |
| Jemison  | 2         | 28  | 14.0 | 1   | 16 |    |
| Anderson | 1         | 12  | 12.0 | 0   | 12 |    |
| O' Cain  | 1         | 3   | 3.0  | 0   | 3  |    |

|            | SCORING | TD    | EXP-1 | EXP-2 | FG | TP |
|------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|----|----|
| Atha       | 1       | 10-10 |       | 3-3   | 25 |    |
| Spencer    | 4       |       |       |       | 24 |    |
| Dwelle     | 2       |       |       |       | 12 |    |
| J.Gayle    | 1       |       |       |       | 6  |    |
| Jemison    | 1       |       |       |       | 6  |    |
| Schlichter | 1       |       |       |       | 6  |    |
| Williams   | 1       |       |       |       | 6  |    |
| -Team-     |         |       | 1-0   |       | 0  |    |

|       | PUNT RETURNS | NO | YDS | AVG | TD | LG |
|-------|--------------|----|-----|-----|----|----|
| Cisco | 4            | 26 | 6.5 | 0   | 10 |    |
| Lane  | 4            | 8  | 2.0 | 0   | 6  |    |

|         | KICKOFF RETURNS | NO | YDS  | AVG | TD | LG |
|---------|-----------------|----|------|-----|----|----|
| Spencer | 2               | 30 | 15.0 | 0   | 19 |    |
| Langley | 1               | 20 | 20.0 | 0   | 20 |    |
| Cisco   | 1               | 11 | 11.0 | 0   | 11 |    |

# includes 6 sacks for 40 yards  
\* includes intercepted fumble for 12 yards

**1981 RESULTS (3-0)**

|                          |    |        |
|--------------------------|----|--------|
| N-OSU 34, Duke           | 13 | 86,266 |
| N-OSU 27, Michigan State | 13 | 87,084 |
| A-OSU 24, Stanford       | 19 | 76,102 |
| N-Oct. 3 - Florida State |    |        |
| A-Oct. 10 - Wisconsin    |    |        |
| N-Oct. 17 - Illinois     |    |        |
| N-Oct. 24 - Indiana      |    |        |
| A-Oct. 31 - Purdue       |    |        |
| A-Nov. 7 - Minnesota     |    |        |
| N-Nov. 14 - Northwestern |    |        |
| A-Nov. 21 - Michigan     |    |        |

**INTERCEPTION RET**

|         | NO | YDS | AVG  | TD | LG |
|---------|----|-----|------|----|----|
| Lane    | 2* | 62  | 31.0 | 0  | 50 |
| Griggs  | 2  | 30  | 15.0 | 0  | 30 |
| D.Hill  | 1  | 13  | 13.0 | 0  | 13 |
| Cobb    | 1  | 0   | 0.0  | 0  | 0  |
| S.Gayle | 1  | 0   | 0.0  | 0  | 0  |

**FIELD GOALS (Underlined - Good)**

Atha [3-3] = 27, 24(Michigan State)  
45(Stanford)

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

SOLO - solo tackles  
ASSIST - assisted tackles

| PLAYER    | SOLO | ASSIST | TOTAL | T-L  | SACK |
|-----------|------|--------|-------|------|------|
| Marek     | 19   | 17     | 36    | 1-1  | -    |
| Cobb      | 10   | 17     | 27    | 1-13 | 1-13 |
| Miller    | 15   | 6      | 21    | 5-15 | 2-6  |
| S.Gayle   | 9    | 11     | 20    | 1-8  | -    |
| D.Hill    | 11   | 5      | 16    | 2-12 | 1-9  |
| Lane      | 13   | 2      | 15    | -    | -    |
| Nelms     | 3    | 12     | 15    | 1-11 | 1-11 |
| Lee       | 7    | 7      | 14    | 1-3  | -    |
| D'Andrea  | 4    | 10     | 14    | -    | -    |
| Czynynski | 3    | 10     | 13    | -    | -    |
| Foster    | 2    | 6      | 8     | -    | -    |
| Berner    | 5    | 2      | 7     | -    | -    |
| Griggs    | 4    | 3      | 7     | 1-4  | 1-4  |
| Eberts    | 3    | 3      | 6     | -    | -    |
| Bell      | 3    | 3      | 6     | -    | -    |
| Keuchler  | 2    | 4      | 6     | -    | -    |
| Cisco     | 3    | 2      | 5     | 1-7  | 1-7  |
| Tatum     | 3    | 2      | 5     | -    | -    |
| Balen     | 0    | 4      | 4     | -    | -    |
| Manning   | 1    | 1      | 2     | -    | -    |
| Lovry     | 1    | 1      | 2     | -    | -    |
| Crecelius | 1    | 1      | 2     | -    | -    |
| Frank     | 1    | 1      | 2     | -    | -    |
| Broadnax  | 1    | 0      | 1     | -    | -    |
| Williams  | 1    | 0      | 1     | -    | -    |
| DeLeone   | 1    | 0      | 1     | -    | -    |
| Anderson  | 1    | 0      | 1     | -    | -    |
| Braun     | 0    | 1      | 1     | -    | -    |
| Anthony   | 0    | 1      | 1     | -    | -    |
| Penn      | 0    | 1      | 1     | -    | -    |

TOTAL - Total tackles  
T-L - tackles for loss and yards lost  
SACK - quarterback sacks and yards lost

FUMBLE RECOVERED: D'Andrea 1, Lane 1, Helms 1, Marek 1.

FUMBLE CAUSED: Cisco 1, Lee 1, Marke Marek 1, Helms 1.

PASSES BROKEN UP: Bell 6, Lane 6, Cisco 2, D.Hill 2, S.Gayle 2, Griggs 1, Lee 1.

\* includes intercepted fumble for 12 yards



## Coach Claims Key Play Was Called From Bench **Disappointed Bruce Accepts Blame**

Ohio State football coach Earle Bruce was almost livid following the Buckeyes' 23-20 loss to Stanford on Sept. 25.

"That's a very disappointing loss for our football team," said Bruce after Stanford's John Elway had tossed a 17-yard touchdown pass with 17 seconds left in the game to pin defeat on the Bucks' chests. "No doubt about it. That's one of the ones that when you get beat in the last few seconds of a football game, it takes a lot out of you. It will be interesting to see how we snap back next week."

Although Elway, probably one of the premier passers in the country, completed 35 of 63 passes for 407 yards and two touchdowns, Bruce was pleased with the defensive effort of his squad.

"I was very proud of our defensive football team," noted Bruce. "They did a tremendous job, outstanding the first half."

Right there is the story of the game. It was as though somebody had switched channels at halftime.

Ohio State had dominated throughout most of the first 30 minutes. But the screen turned fuzzy in the second half. It was all Stanford. Ohio State's offense seemed like it could not have pushed aside a good high school team in the second half.

And, although the defense did

rest and allow Stanford to overcome a 13-0 halftime deficit, Bruce put the blame squarely on the shoulders of the offense. He did not want to hear anything about the yardage allowed via passing by Elway. He was adamant that the defense did the best job it could do under the circumstances.

"They didn't get much help from the offense with all the turnovers we had," said Bruce of the Buckeye defense. "We didn't assert ourselves in the third quarter at all. We had the opening possession and we lost it on the center quarterback exchange."

"Our mistakes did hurt us and I would say John Elway is a fine quarterback. He threw a lot of times today."

But the post game conversation with Bruce boiled down to one question. Why did Ohio State, on a second-and-12 at the Stanford 27 and less than two minutes remaining, throw a pass — a Mike Tomczak aerial that was intercepted by Stanford's Charles Hutchings, setting up the quick, 80-yard scoring drive which gave victory to the Cardinal?

Bruce took full responsibility.

"That was a bad play. It was a bad play," said Bruce. "It was called from the sideline, it was called from the bench, I called it. Obviously we didn't execute that play. Bad call. It was a bad call."

And on the game-winning TD pass from Elway to Emile Harry, what happened? What broke down in the often porous OSU secondary?

"We were in a man coverage," said Bruce. "He (Elway) rolled away and was pressured out of the pocket and ran around back there until someone lost his man. Then he threw across the field."

What of the Ohio State defender allowing Harry to be standing all alone in the end zone, waiting for Elway's toss?

"I think he reacted to Elway rolling away and lost his receiver," said Bruce. "I was watching Elway also, hoping that someone would get to him, so I didn't see necessarily downfield. But he



**Earle Bruce Exhorts His Troops**

(Elway) is notorious for throwing away and throwing long — and as you saw today — many times. We did stop him three times. Intercepted him three times. We did a good job for the first half."

But to almost immediately turn from putting any blame on the defense, Bruce again reverted to

the lack of offense on the Buckeyes' part — especially in the second half.

"I don't think you can have four interceptions and two fumbles and as many turnovers as we had," lamented Bruce, "and be a real good football team."

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*Cardinal Ace Completes 35 Of 63 Passes*

# Elway-Led Stanford Outlasts Ohio State



Ohio State's Gary Williams (44) watches helplessly as Stanford's Charles Hutchings (46) comes up with the interception in the end zone that gave the Cardinal new life with less than two minutes to play.

Stanford went one up on Ohio State in the test of college football mettle.

The Cardinals "passed" every possible test when they invaded Ohio Stadium on Sept. 25. The Buckeyes, on the other hand, failed one test after another offensively, and failed the biggest test defensively in dropping a 23-20 decision to the Pac-10 team, coached by former all-pro Paul Wiggin.

For Ohio State it was a game of ups, downs, ups and one resounding down at the end. For Stanford, a victim of its own lackluster offense in the first half, it was a solid second-half performance. In fact, it was an almost flawless performance by one John Elway which had many of the record-setting stadium crowd of 89,436 buzzing.

And those fans, part of the 85th consecutive sellout crowd to watch the Buckeyes, buzzed loudest in the final three minutes of the game.

Elway, a 6-4, 202-pound senior out of Northridge, Calif. who came into the game leading the country in passing efficiency and total yards, brought the Cardinals back from the brink of defeat to a victory on the strength of his amazing right arm.

Trailing 20-16 and with Ohio State in possession of the football deep in Stanford territory and less than two minutes remaining, it

looked rather unlikely that Elway would have another chance offensively. Or if he did, it appeared his team would be too far behind to do anything about the deficit in the score.

But, if you're a Stanford booster, miracles can — and did — happen.

Ohio State had been given a new lease on life when linebacker Rowland Tatum intercepted an Elway pass and returned it 29 yards to the Stanford 25 with 2:28 left in the fourth quarter.

But on a second-and-12 at the 27, Ohio State coach Earle Bruce sent in the word to pass. Sophomore quarterback Mike Tomczak rolled to his left and passed into the end zone for Gary Williams. But Stanford defensive back Kevin Baird tipped the pass away from Williams and, as it turned out, the death blow slammed down on OSU when Charles Hutchings intercepted for the Cardinals.

With 80 yards of artificial surface between him and paydirt and only 1:38 showing on the clock, Elway hitched up his gunstrap, drew the pistol and cocked his arm in readiness.

Working from the shotgun, Elway connected with Mike Dotterer for 13 and Mike Tolliver for 15 for back-to-back first downs, the second at Stanford's 48.

After successive incomplete passes, Elway hooked up with swift Emile Harry over the middle for a 35-yard gain and a first down on the OSU 17.

After a completion to Dotterer lost one yard, Elway, under a hard rush by the OSU defensive front, scrambled around for what seemed like an eternity before spotting a wide-open Harry in the right corner of the end zone.

Ohio State, which mounted only 26 plays in the second half to 53 by Stanford, still had a chance, as slim as it seemed.

Jimmy Gayle returned the kick 21 yards to the OSU 27 with 29 seconds left. Tomczak, who completed only six of 19 passes on the day for just 71 yards, hit tight end John Frank for an apparent 29-yard gain on the first play but Ohio State was set back five yards for illegal motion on the play.

Four straight passes — only one of which was completed and for only a nine-yard gain — and the Buckeyes dropped to 2-1 on the season.

The earlier parts of the game were almost as different as night and day. The Buckeyes, disdaining the pass in all but certain situations, had ground out a 13-0 halftime lead, having to twice settle for Rich Spangler field goals.

The Buckeyes grabbed a 3-0 lead with 4:19 left in the first quarter. Spangler connected from 31 yards out to cap a 39-yard drive that was stalled when tailback Tim Spencer,

Continued On Page 8



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# Worn Out Defense Must Pick Up Pieces

By Michael Pramik

John Elway had a fantastic day Saturday against OSU, and he had a little help from an unlikely donor. The Ohio State offense.

After being shut out 13-0 in the first half, partly because of OSU's effective ball-control offense, Stanford had the ball for almost 20 minutes of the second half. The Cardinal outscored the Buckeyes 23-7, en route to a 23-20 win.

That means the defense, unmercifully condemned to spend two thirds of the half against the nation's leading passer, played respectably. The fact is, stopping Elway when he has 20 minutes in a half to work with the ball is next to impossible.

"It's kind of discouraging," linebacker Marcus Marek said. "The defense, I think, matured more than anything. We were out there, I don't know how many plays, but I think the defense could be commended for a great part of that football game."

OSU Coach Earle Bruce agreed. "I was very proud of our defensive football team," Bruce said. "I think they did a tremendous job. They were outstanding in the first half.

"We didn't have the ball (in the second half). We were backed up — did you see where we got field position? We tried to get it in good

field position, but we didn't get it out of there. The real problem was after that great kickoff return, we dropped the ball on the first snap — that's not too good."

That fumble came on the first

snap from scrimmage in the second half after Jimmy Gayle ran back the second half kickoff 57 yards to the Stanford 43. From the moment of the fumble, the Stanford offense grasped the

momentum and never really lost it. Not once in the second half did Stanford punt, and of the seven possessions it had, five ended up in scores. On the others, Stanford

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With the Ohio State offense unable to move the ball much of the second half, the burden in the Buckeyes' game with Stanford was carried, for the most part, by the defense. Much of that load was, as is usually the case, carried by linebackers Marcus Marek (36) and Glen Cobb (35), shown here stopping Cardinal Ken Williams.



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# Even Extra Backs Could Not Stop Elway

Continued From Page 7

fumbled the snap on a field goal attempt, and Elway threw an interception. However, despite the defense's spending most of the game on the field, cornerback Garcia Lane says the unit wasn't tired.

"We were playing a lot of coverage where you have to follow the receiver," Lane said. "You do lose your wind, but I always had enough where I could run with the receiver like it was the first play of the game, so I was never totally out of breath.

"We had a lot of extra backs, because there's no way a 4.8 (seconds in the 40 yard dash) linebacker can watch a 4.4 running back. We were aware of that, so we were trying to put in backs to help us out some. We just have to work a little more."

One play in which the defense didn't play too respectably was Stanford's winning touchdown play. On second and ten from the OSU 17, Elway faked, moved left and finally found a wide open Emile Harry in the end zone.

"That was my man who caught the ball," Marek said. "He (Harry) rolled away and ran back out to the flat and everything sort of got discombubulated. Everybody got jammed. I turned my back a second and took a step and before I knew it, he threw the ball and got behind me and I really couldn't get to the corner."

The play began with 42 seconds to play and ended with 34 seconds remaining. Thus, Elway had plenty of time to look for Harry. Lane further explained the winning touchdown pass.

"We ran 'Scarlet banjo,' where if a receiver goes out, I pick him up — if the receiver goes in, someone else picks him up," he said. "What they did was brought a receiver out and brought a receiver in, then the one that went out across the field — we were in a coverage where you stick with him and the receiver came back — somebody chased all the way across and eventually worked open, and that's when Elway turned around and (threw it).

"I had the running back coming out of the backfield. He came out

and stopped around seven yards and hooked up. Then he took off underneath across the field — I had to trail him."

Still, the defense played well. In the first half, the defensive front line, led by Tackle Jerome Foster, named *Key Oldsmobile/Rent-A-Wreck Key Buck of the Week*, constantly hounded Elway, helping the secondary hold the Stanford quarterback to 123 yards passing. Elway was intercepted twice in the first half, once by Marek and once by Foster. In the second half, Rowland Tatum's interception with 2:23 remaining seemed to lock up the game, although Tatum didn't think so.

Sixty-four seconds later, he was proved right.

"I guess he was trying to hit his tight end over the middle," Tatum said. "He just underthrew his man and I was right there.

"I really didn't think we had the game won, there was still time on the clock — no game's won until the game's over."

For the Buckeye defense, it's back to the drawing board for next week's game against Florida State. Meanwhile, memories of the Stanford game linger on.

"It was difficult," Lane said of the loss. "I'm just getting ready for Monday. I think we'll bounce back. Right now, as a unit, I think we played pretty good."

## Buckeyes Led 13-0 At The Half

Continued From Page 6

Ohio State's leading ground-gainer with 91 yards, bobbled a pitchout and was dropped for a five-yard loss on a first down play at the 15.

A touchdown by fullback Vaughn Broadnax and a Spangler conversion upped the count to 10-0 on the first play of the second quarter. Broadnax, who carried four times in the first quarter for 27 yards, dove through the center of the line from one-yard out with 14:58 remaining in the half.

Linebacker Glen Cobb helped create a break for the Buckeyes late in the first half when he stepped in front of an Elway pass and tipped it, with Jerome Foster coming down with the interception at the 41-second mark of the second quarter.

Four plays and one first down later, OSU settled for a 24-yard three-pointer by Spangler and the 13-0 margin going into the halftime locker room.

Defensively during that first 30 minutes, the Buckeyes had Elway talking to himself. The talented signal-caller completed 13 of 27 passes but netted only 123 yards and had two of them picked off. In addition, Cardinal placekicker Mark Harmon missed on two field goal attempts.

The Bucks' downfall began on the first play following a fine 57-yard return of the second-half kickoff by Gayle.

Tomczak fumbled the first snap from center with linebacker Matt Soderlund recovering for Stanford.

Elway hit on three of three passes to help the Cardinals reach the OSU one. But a motion penalty on Stanford and two incomplete passes and the visitors had to be content with a 23-yard field goal from Harmon. Ohio State's lead had dwindled to 13-3 with 10:56 left in the third quarter.

Three plays later Ohio State was forced to punt.

Elway, who would complete 35 of 63 passes for 407 yards, again started throwing. He hit on four of five tosses and the Cardinals, now

2-1 on the season, had a first down at the Buckeye 14.

Again the defense rose to the occasion, forcing Stanford to tack only three points on the board on a 24-yard Harmon field goal with 6:26 to go in the third period.

On the second play after taking over at its own 30, Ohio State's Tomczak was intercepted by safety Vaughn Williams, who returned it 18 yards to the Ohio State 36. Tailback Vincent White netted 14 yards on a sweep to the right before Stanford was penalized 15 for clipping on the next play.

Elway put the Cardinals' first six-pointer on the board four plays later — three completions in four attempts — with a 12-yard scoring toss to Dotterer. Harmon's conversion kick had the score knotted at 13 with 3:30 left in the third quarter.

Ohio State reverted to some trickery to take a take a 20-13 lead with 8:47 left in the game. Williams, lined up wide left, took a pitchout from Tomczak and appeared ready to head downfield with Gayle running interference.

But instead, Williams, a quarterback at Wilmington (Ohio) High School, launched a soft bomb which wide receiver Cedric Anderson had to wait for to complete a 63-yard play for a first down at the Stanford five. Broadnax gained two before Spencer drove hard over left tackle for the final three yards.

Fans mumbled when Stanford, facing a fourth-and-10 at the OSU 30 and trailing by seven, opted for a field goal attempt by Harmon with only 4:15 left in the game which narrowed the deficit to 20-16.

Stanford was back in business four plays later when second-string cornerback Rod Gilmore tipped a Tomczak pass into the hands of teammate Baird with 2:35 showing on the clock.

Tatum picked off Elway's pass on the first play and the Buckeyes appeared to be in control.

But that one last pass and Elway's strong right arm turned things around for Stanford.

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# The View From 15th and High

By Frank L. Moskowitz, BSB Editor

## Second-Guessers Will Abound After Loss

Well. At least it was a non-league game.

Ohio State's loss to Stanford Sept. 25 will certainly go down as one of the most disappointing defeats in OSU history.

It was a game that, after Rowland Tatum intercepted a John Elway pass and returned it to the Cardinal 25 with 2:23 to go and OSU up by four, probably all of the record Ohio Stadium crowd of 89,436 had put in the Buckeye win column.

Only a major blunder could keep Ohio State from winning. Only a major blunder, and that blunder came two plays later when sophomore quarterback Mike Tomczak rolled to his left and under-threw deep to an admittedly open Gary Williams. The ball was tipped by Cardinal Kevin Baird and landed in the hands of teammate Charles Hutchings.

That was all that Stanford quarterback Elway needed. Less than two minutes later, the game belonged to the visitors from the west coast.

It was, of course, the type of play that, if it had worked, would have been lauded as a stroke of genius on OSU coach Earle Bruce's part. But it was also the type of play that, given Ohio State's need to only run out the clock, would, if it didn't work, lead to the second-guesses of the above-mentioned 89,436 people in-house, as well as a network TV audience.

Bring on the second-guessers.

At least one person we spoke to, who was near enough to catch Bruce's reaction to the play on the sidelines, theorizes that it was Tomczak who decided to throw and

Bruce simply took the blame to protect his young quarterback.

Bruce is definitely one to not criticize his players, but regardless of whose decision it was to throw the ball, it was a play that everyone associated with Ohio State football would like to have back — just put that film on reverse, have the ball magically return to Tomczak's hand, put the film on forward again, and have Tomczak run around left end for a three-yard gain (even a three-yard loss).

The funny thing about the game was that, just moments before, the same capacity crowd was, no doubt, lauding Bruce's play calling, as Ohio State, noted for its so, so conservative offense, went to the razzle-dazzle to help move to a 20-13 lead. In a play that was used last season with Bob Atha, Tomczak flipped to ex-high school quarterback Gary Williams, who hit Cedric Anderson for a 63-yard gain.

Yet it may have been a game in which Ohio State was out-coached.

In the first half, the Buckeyes kept the Elway-led Cardinal forces from posting a point on the score board — no easy feat. Much of OSU's success had to be traced to the fact that Jerome Foster put on an almost super-human display of pass-rushing.

At halftime, however, Stanford apparently figured out how to neutralize Foster and also figured out that they could beat Ohio State underneath. Tight end Chris Dressel, who caught only one pass in the first half, latched onto seven in the second 30 minutes to help Elway improve from less than 50

percent passing and only 123 yards in the first half to 22 of 36 for 284 yards in the second half.

Ohio State never figured out how to stop Elway in the second half, and with the exception of the razzle-dazzle, never figured out how to get the offense, which without Williams' bomb gained only 57 second-half yards, moving in the final two periods.

As the season progresses, Ohio State will have to show a better ability to adjust if it is to contend for the Big Ten title.

Incidentally, Elway is super. The winning touchdown pass is a good example of his ability. He went far to the left and when Emile Harry broke free in the right hand corner, Elway was able to throw all the way across the field for the easy score. The fact that Elway was rolling left may be the reason that Marcus Marek, who was matching Harry step-for-step, broke left when Harry broke right and free in the end zone.

At least it was a non-league game.

## Lane Loses Fear Of Returns

Continued From Page 5

with Lane's punt-returning ability as well. In the first two games, Lane had returned 11 punts for 118 yards, a 10.7 average, though he was held to nine yards on three returns against Stanford.

"I don't even have a fear of catching the ball," he says. "I just go by instinct. Last year I did have a fear. I was thinking negatively — I could turn the ball over, or I could give up the winning score for the other team.

"But this year I don't think along those terms. I think more like when I catch the punt, I could give the offense better field position."

Although Lane has excellent speed — he runs the 40 in 4.5 seconds — he attributes his success not to his speed, but, again, to technique.

"If you're the fastest person on the team, that doesn't make you the best punt returner. You've got to have someone who's going to catch it first. That's what Earle's (Bruce) biggest preference is — catching it.

"Then, I always try to get downfield (ahead of the punt) and run forward. That way I'm not going to catch the ball and lose yardage. If I don't have too much room to run, I'm going to go straight ahead and get what I can."

Serving double duty for OSU is not surprising for Lane. He was recruited at four positions. At Youngstown South High School, Lane put in time both as quarterback and wide receiver on offense, and played safety on special situations on defense. He ran for 1,013 yards his senior year as quarterback, so a possibility to be running back came up.

But when he chose OSU, Lane quickly narrowed down his options.

"I felt I was too small (5-10, 174 pounds this season) to play quarterback at Ohio State, and I didn't think I could take the pounding of a running back at a big school like this. I knew the only

positions I could play were defensive back and wide receiver. So when I moved over (to safety) two years ago, I wasn't shocked or anything."

Since this is his second year as a starter in the secondary, Lane feels he's benefited from the experience.

"I know for me, I'm playing my receivers a little closer than last year," Lane said. "Confidence has a lot to do with playing in the defensive backfield. A lot of times you might be isolated (on one receiver).

"Even if it's zone coverage and there's a receiver on the wide side of my corner, I've got him on a go, a take off or if he runs a curl, I should be there.

"One thing that helps us though, is that we're going against our ones (best receivers) a lot more than last year. Gary's (Williams) got good hands, Cedric's (Anderson) got speed and John Frank is probably one of the fastest tight ends in the Big Ten. I think I'm going against the best every day."

If playing against those fine receivers is not motivation enough for Lane, he can always think back to last year. Actually, he has. The secondary played satisfactorily for the first few games of 1981, until the downhill slide began in the loss to Florida State on Oct. 2, when Rick Stockstill completed 25 of 42 passes for 299 yards and two touchdowns. Lane said, before the Stanford game, that such a breakdown would not happen this year.

"Once we eliminate the big play — which we're doing — you're not going to beat Ohio State throwing the ball 30 yards six times," he says. "You're going to have to be a team that can put together long, time-consuming drives.

"Last year, teams came in here, and like they said in the paper, they 'threw at will.' They threw 27-yard passes, then they might even come with the long bomb.

"That's not going to happen this year. I don't think we're ever going to have a big breakdown like that."

## Bruce Won't Blame Defense

Continued From Page 3

"I thought other than that 80-yard drive there at the end our defense really played well. That's a lot of pressure to have on a team right at the end."

Bruce was asked to explain what went wrong offensively in the second half. After all, Ohio State had built that 13-0 intermission margin on 138 rushing yards and 190 total yards, but failed to move the ball well in the second half, finishing with only 310 total yards.

"We didn't have the ball," Bruce said. "We were one play and we fumbled. We were out in three plays. We were backed up. Did you see where we got field position? We fumbled the ball on the kickoff when they started squib-kicking. We got the ball on the 11-yard line and we weren't going to take any chances at that point with the score 13-0 and 13-3 and give them good field position. But we didn't

get it out of there. They made a couple of adjustments that were very good against us.

"The real problem was that after the great kickoff return, we dropped the ball on the first snap. That's not very good."

Was it the toughest loss Bruce has had to taste since coming to Ohio State?

"I've had a couple. I've had a couple disappointing losses at Ohio State," said Bruce. "But I think anything will disappoint you when it happens in the last 40 seconds of the football game. I think that's disappointing to everyone concerned. I don't think you're going to see any real excitement in Ohio State's locker room and wouldn't think there should be. I think we should be a little down that that happened. We're going to have to fight back this week. Football's not going to be a lot of fun this week."