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## Stanford's long walk back

By RAY MCALLISTER **Collegian Sports Editor** 

PALO ALTO, Calif. - It is a long walk from Stanford Stadium to the locker room, perhaps as much as half a mile.

It is a walk that the football players make after every game here — one team in victory, the other in defeat. They shuffle down the treelined asphalt drive, moving to the dusty edge if prompted by an automobile from behind.

Saturday it was the Stanford players who moved more slowly. Scanning the asphalt frequently, a number tucked richly-tanned girl friends under their arms. Twelve-year-olds ran among them, each scanning his program when he encountered a jersey number, then, if the number represented a familar name, thrusting the program and a

pencil at it. But the ultimate reward was a pad, any kind of pad, in The . 12-year-olds grabbed for the players'

arms, pointed to their helmets and pleaded: "A pad, puh-leeese, a pad." Most of the Stanford players obliged. The Penn Staters lapped up the whole show. This was their day and they gladly signed autographs and some even tossed out their pads with the warning: "We're not supposed to do this, so don't say where you got it." One of the more generous finally had

to turn down a request: "That's all I got, man; I'm naked." The enthusiasm continued inside. Joe Paterno, for one,

as excited and was unPaterno-like as he's been in quite some time, when he entered the locker room. Certainly, he had not been having enviable success in recent outings on national

been humiliated in three of its last four. And Paterno's last trip to

the coast had ended in a 49-11 loss to UCLA in 1966. Additionally there was the proverbial blow for Eastern

football, though some players performed admirably downplayed its significance. "East-West was not that much," running back John Cappelletti said. "But Stanford being in the Pacific Eight, the league with Southern Cal and the others,

might have made difference. There is something to prove." Invariably, Cappelletti was asked about the two passes he threw, one a TD which was nullified by penalty. The former Upper Darby

quarterback was modest enough. "I'm not really after Shuman's job," he laughed, thinking of the first, a lame-

duck aerial, he threw. "Of course. I threw them that way in high school." Quarterback Tom Shuman,

television: Penn State had once he began connecting, was throwing somewhat more. impressive looking passes. Not surprisingly, Paterno

said he was pleased with the initial performance of his onthe-spot junior. Of the field, Shuman

enough, too, scrambling out of a question dealing with the defense's again getting the first points on the board. "We were just waiting for them to score first, then we go," he explained. The Stanford locker room

was not so jovial. All-America quarterback candidate Mike Boryla, outperformed by Shuman, said: ''I'm disappointed in myself. My receivers were fine. I just think I should have done a-better job of finding them." All week long Penn State

had been billed as the nation's third-ranked team, in reference to Sports Illustrated's pre-season predictions. Stanford defensive end Roger Stillwell, who somehow ended up winning ABC's outstanding defensive player award over the entire Penn State defense, was asked if the Lions

deserved that billing. "That would be risky for me to say," he offered after a shrug of the shoulders.

Stillwell was still rougher on Penn State: "Holding on offense could have been called on them on a lot of plays but there wasn't even one called as far as I know."

For Stillwell and company, there was little that was comforting Saturday. And there is not likely to be much has barely started and no less than seven serious contenders have emerged to challenge Southern California's bid for a second consecutive national championship.

And the list doesn't include fourth-ranked Texas or eighth-rated Notre Dame who get under way next weekend.

While No. 1 Southern Cal opened its season with an

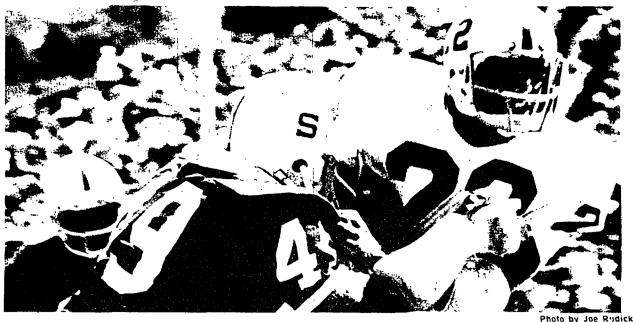
rated Michigan whipped Iowa 31-7. Bear "I-don't-know-we'll

In the only match up of Top favored Colorado, ranked

challengers emerge for Trojans The college football season Minnesota 56-7 while fifth- 10th, 17-6. No. 11 Oklahoma, held off stubborn Oregon national runner-up the last two years, swamped Baylor 42-14

Duke 21-17, No. 12 Auburn

State 18-9. No. 13 Arizona State shaded Oregon 26-20, State Mary 34-27 and No. 20 Texas Tech defeated Utah 29-22.



Stanford linebacker Forrie Martin meets tailback John Cappelletti (22)

## be ready to play" Bryant's sixth ranked Alabama team No. 14 Florida downed Add those winners to idle Kansas State 21-10. No. 17 crushed California 66-0 while No. 2 Nebraska, an easy victor over UCLA a week ago North Carolina State outscored Virginia 43-23, No. No. 7 Penn State throttled Stanford 20-6. and you've got the current 18 Houston beat intracity rival Rice 24-6 No. 19 North group of status seekers. Elsewhere ninth-ranked Twenty teams No. 15 Carolina shaded William & Louisiana State turned back Tennessee rallied to edge

