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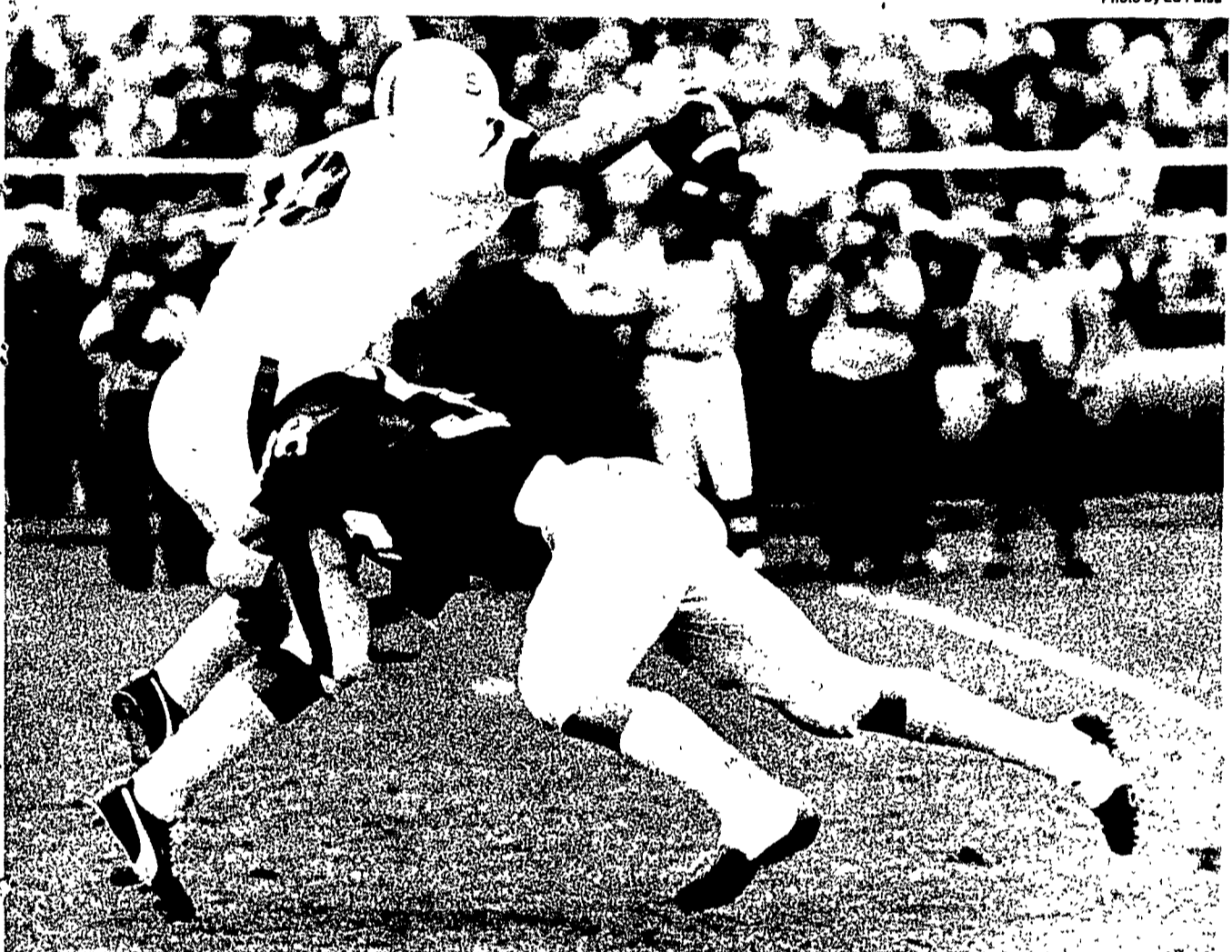


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Going counterclockwise in the Penn State — Stanford game, Lion quarterback John Andress has plenty of help on his way to the ground. Matt Suhey (32) is logically running away with great haste from the Cardinals' Duncan McColl (77). Penn State's Ron Hostetter (38) has Stanford's Mike Cordova pretty much in hand. Jimmy Cefalo (44) gets the word from Penn State football wordmaster, coach Joe Paterno.

Says interpretation different

Christiansen angry over penalty

By TOM McNICHOL
Assistant Sports Editor

The Stanford Cardinals were still very much in the game when Mike Cordova overthrew Bill Kellar in the end zone on a third and ten play from the Penn State 14-yard line with some five minutes remaining in the Lions 15-12 victory on Saturday.

It looked like Stanford was going to at least knot the score at 15 since Mike Michel, the Cardinal field goal kicker, had already hit on a 52-yarder earlier in the game. But there was a matter of a little yellow flag lying on the bright green turf of Beaver Stadium.

For the fourth time in the game, Stanford was called for having an ineligible receiver downfield. The 15-yard loss and an ensuing sack of Cordova by Bill Banks and end Ron Crosby for a loss of 15 yards put the Cardinals well out of field goal range and the Lions' slim three point margin held up for a victory.

After the game Stanford head coach Jack Christiansen made it clear that he was unhappy with the interpretation of the rule by the officials.

"The interpretation of the rule in the west and in the east is different," Christiansen said. "I don't know who is right. From the standpoint, I'm glad this was our last game here."

Questioned further Christiansen said, "You should have a direct line to the officials and ask

them."

John Solic is a former NCAA football official who now resides in State College and observes the officiating at Penn State games for the Tri-State Intercollegiate Officiating Association. He tried to clarify the situation Saturday.

"The rule says that any player wearing a number between 50 and 79 (this is a result of the standardization of numbers by position) is an ineligible receiver once he is three yards beyond the line of scrimmage," Solic said.

"On that play in the fourth quarter, when the halfback came up on the line, that immediately made the tight end an ineligible receiver," Solic said. "If the halfback had set up a yard behind the line that would have made the tight end eligible. It was a good call."

Most of the other calls came on screen plays by the Stanford offensive unit. "That's a tough call," Solic said, "because it starts out as a running play." Solic went on to praise the work of the umpire who made the calls. "That umpire, Larry Ellis from Syracuse, is one of the best umpires in NCAA football," Solic said.

Stanford's offensive captain, guard Alex Karakozoff considered a couple of the calls questionable but was considerably less upset about the situation than Christiansen.

Although Stanford quarterback Mike Cordova

agreed with his coach that the call is not made as often in the West, he seemed to have his own theory on the rash of ineligible receiver calls that plagued the Stanford offense.

"We run a lot of screens and that kind of play is all timing," Cordova said. "I guess our timing was a little off."

"You can't fault an offensive lineman for hustling downfield and trying to block someone," Cordova added.

In fact, Cordova looked at the whole situation rather philosophically. "We didn't have any holding penalties which is what we were having problems with," Cordova said. "I guess penalties always kind of level off anyway."

	Penn State	Stanford
First downs	15	16
Rushes — yards	54-198	31-78
Passing yardage	81	205
Return yardage (fumble, int. and punt return)	31	11
Passes	22-41	37-17-2
Punts	9-30.2	5-36.8
Fumbles — lost	3-1	4-3
Penalties — yards	7-45	8-90

	Penn State	Stanford	Total
	15	0	15
	3	6	9

Connors holds off Borg, wins Open in thriller

FOREST HILLS, N.Y. (AP) — Jimmy Connors fought off four set points in a dramatic third-set tiebreaker and beat Wimbledon champion Bjorn Borg yesterday for his second U.S. Open Tennis Championship. The exciting match started in bright daylight and finished in arc lights—lasted 3 hours, 10 minutes.

The little battler from Belleville, Ill., thus erased the taint of a runnerup image tacked on him after failure to live up to a sweep of the major championships in 1974.

"Jimmy can no longer win the big one," critics said, referring to Connors' inability to win any of the major crowns in the last two years while gaining the finals in nine tournaments in which he

played, including the 1975 Australian, Wimbledon and American events.

A record crowd of 16,253, bringing the tournament total to a record 250,880, saw the bitterly fought men's final reach a climax in the third set which, after being tied 6-6, went into a cliff-hanging lingering death that included 20 points.

Connors, four times within

one solid blow of losing the tie-break, rallied magnificently to eke it out 11 points to nine.

The huge crowd, which stayed on well past dinner time to watch the drama, rose to its feet for a thunderous ovation.

The tiebreak, used internationally, is called the best of-12 playoff. The first

player to win seven points takes it but he must have a two point margin.

In this particular tiebreak, Connors and Borg slashed away at each other as the score went to 2-2, 4-4 and one stage 6-4 in favor of Borg. The Swede gained this final edge when Connors hit a strong approach shot, barreled to the net and flubbed the volley.

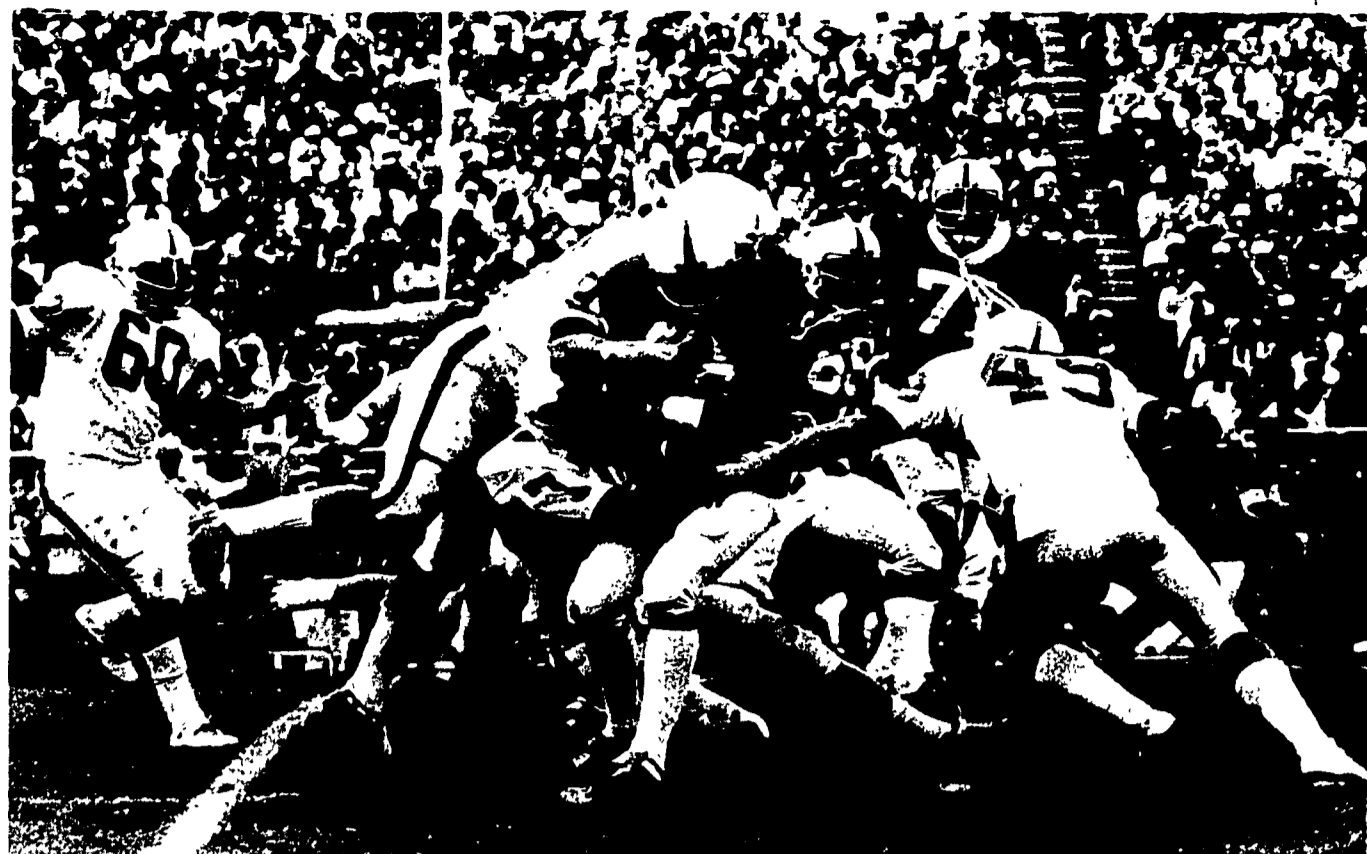


Photo by Chris Newkum

Same old bird song

By BRIAN MILLER
Collegian Sports Editor

Stanford head coach Jack Christiansen had advertised all preseason. This year's Stanford team would not be like other years. The 1976 team would play aggressively, it would not make mental mistakes, it would, in Jack's words, "be going after Penn State with everything we have."

So the Cardinals promptly opened Saturday afternoon with three fumbles in the first quarter, handed Penn State the opportunities for 15 points and succumbed just like in the past years, 15-12, to a now-awake, now-asleep Penn State team.

Stanford fumbled the first time it touched the ball as a Scott Fitzkee semi-blocked punt was turned over and recovered by the Lions' Joe Lally on the Penn State 34.

On the strength of a great John Andress to Jimmy Cefalo 44-yard pass play, the Lions moved inside the Stanford 10. Steve Geise put the final touches on the seven play, 66-yard drive by banging over from the two and the Lions lead, with Matt Bahr's missed extra point, 6-0.

"It was the same kind of halgame as the last two or three years," Christiansen said. "From the standpoint of breaks, we put ourselves into a deep hole and couldn't come back."

Stanford shoveled its second load of dirt when Penn State kicked off and James Lofton, running adroitly into his own blocker, dropped the football. Joe Diange recovered on the Cardinal 37 and four plays later, Matt Bahr connected from 33 yards out to make the hole 9-0.

If by chance you were passing the bottle or in the relief station when Stanford fumbled the first two times, Cardinal quarterback Mike Cordova kept the tradition alive by fumbling the next time Stanford got the ball. Lion linebacker Kurt Allerman fell on the hot potato at the Stanford 48. So in just over six minutes, Stanford had already turned the ball over three times.

To the Lions credit, they once more took advantage of the error barged down the field with Dave Stutts plowing Cardinals down in the main. Matt Suhey started a great day by slamming off the right side for six yards and the TD. The two-point try failed, but after the red feathers had settled, the scoreboard flashed 15-0 and it looked like a long day for the Cardinals.

And it was a long day. But not just for the Cardinals, who kicked and used a great catch by Tony Hill to creep within three, but for the fans in the stands. The Lions started changing quarterbacks, the offense broke out the sleeping bag and yawn, it just wasn't too interesting.

"Our offense did a poor job of handling their stunts," said Penn State head coach Joe Paterno. "We did not have good protection for our passer and we didn't throw the ball well at times."

Stanford's offense finally got it's act together, putting up six points before the half on two Mike Michel field goals (52 yards and 27 yards). The Cardinals sweated a few palms 9:25 into the second half when wide receiver Tony Hill made a circus catch beyond the Lion defender Bill Crummy to tighten the score to 15-12.

Penn State's defense was typically outstanding, stopping two drives on interceptions and harrasing Cordova into numerous mistakes and hurry-ups.

"Penn State put pressure on our quarterback," said Christiansen. "We should be in a position to get the ball off or pick up the rusher."

Cordova was hassled all afternoon by the Penn State rush, especially from the Lion defensive mainstay, the linebackers. Inside right linebacker Kurt Allerman was in on nine tackles

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himself. The secondary also had a fine day as Crummy picked off a pass in the Stanford end zone to end one drive and Neil Hutton mixed up several connections from his left half back slot. Left end Bill Banks and right end Ron Crosby might have staged the main event though, meeting in the Stanford backfield to dump Cordova late in the fourth quarter with the Cardinals driving on the Lion 29.

"I wouldn't want to single out anybody on defense. It was a real good team effort," said Paterno. "Nothing came easy. We mixed things up well and we didn't miss many assignments."

Paterno wasn't even feeling bad about Hill's great catch over Crummy, probably the second half, all-team highlight, adding, "that's a superb play by Hill, who is a beautiful-looking athlete."

Beautiful looking didn't fit Penn State's offense. Things looked great in the beginning, but the air went out of the offense in the middle of the first half. Paterno, strangely it seemed, started switching QBs in the first half and the Lion offense started sputtering.

"Andress had thrown a couple of bad passes, so I thought I would put in Fusina," Paterno said. "We wanted to give him a little game experience."

Fusina's first half debut consisted of four incomplete passes. Andress returned before the half closed.

Fusina entered the game again in the fourth quarter, when Andress' arm tightened up on him. He was sacked and fumbled, with the Cardinals' Stan Walters dropping on the ball.

"The play was a hook. They got me on a safety blitz," said Fusina. "Their defensive line really played great. There's not too many better."

Stanford on the whole played great defense. They bounced back from a shaky first half, and with the exception of Matt Suhey, kept the Lions bottled up.

"They're the best defensive line I've ever seen, with the possible exception of Ohio State," said Penn State right tackle Brad Benson. "(Duncan) McColl — I think he's great."

McColl, a consensus All-American, had one of Stanford's defensive gems in the third quarter, nailing Andress for a nine-yard loss at the Cardinal 26, foiling the Lions on a fourth and one play and a possible game icer.

Matt Suhey was the offensive show for State, gaining 119 yards on 23 carries, his longest a 22 yard, tackle breaking romp. The freshman even got some praise from McColl. "He was tough to bring down," said McColl. "He broke a lot of tackles."

"I've got a lot to learn," said Suhey. "I made a couple of mistakes, like getting in the open field, I froze sometimes." For the Cardinals, the ice didn't melt soon enough.