

# THE FOOTBALL LETTER

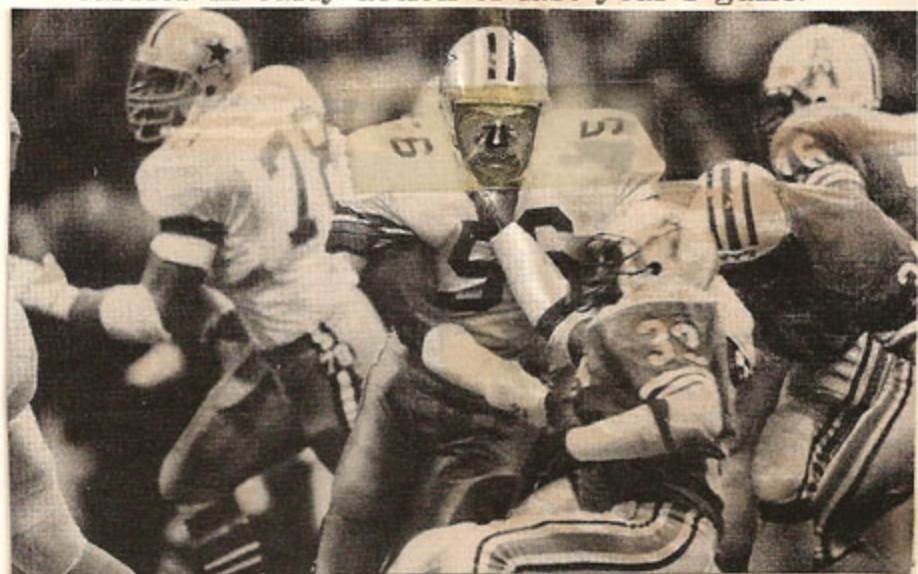
## YOUNG BUCKS OVER-FORTIES 14 7

The Young Buck gridders survived a Thanksgiving feast, a wild bingo party and a scare from a gutty Over Forty squad last year to win the much publicized and controversial Turkey Bowl. The feast and party were all part of the homecoming festivities at Nicolls Stadium but the scare on the gridiron was not expected by most Young Buck players, fans, sports-writers and concession stand workers.

After a brief picture session and some pre-game activities the anticipation was over as the Young Bucks won the coin toss and received the opening kickoff. The Over Forties promptly held the Young Bucks on downs and then drove to within ten yards of paydirt on their first possession. The drive was led by "Big Don" Nicolls at the helm and included completions to "Crazy Legs" Lewis and "Hammerin Hank" Grover but when his fifth down pass fell incomplete in the corner of the end zone the Bucks defence breathed a sigh of relief. The rest of the first quarter was highlighted by a series of interceptions by "Jukin Joey" Stephan and "Hammerin Hank" Grover for the Forties squad and "Monsterman" Mark Hitchins and Dale "Too small" Nicolls for the Young Bucks.

The second quarter was packed with excitement from beginning to end as both teams scored to deadlock the contest at halftime. On the Bucks first possession of the quarter "Junk Yard" Grover hit Bob "Big Boy" Nicolls on a down out and down for a touchdown to give the Bucks an early second quarter lead. Shortly thereafter the Young Bucks drove to the one foot line after another interception by "Too small" only to be turned away by the brilliant play of the Forties at the goal line. The Bucks had run "Mad Dog" Grover on three consecutive plays and on fourth down and inches they chose to do the same but came up short as "Crazy Legs" made a diving tag to stop him. The Over Forties intercepted the Bucks on fifth down as "Dandy Dean" Kauffman came up with the pigskin to thwart the Bucks efforts. This defensive series seemed to motivate the offense of the Forties and after an interception late in

*Hammerin Hank smothers Young Buck ball carrier in early action of last year's game.*



*Crazy Legs Lewis picks up five tough yards against the Bucks.*



*Mark Monsterman Hitchins chalks up one of the Buck's sacks.*



*(Last Year's Game Recap cont.)*

the quarter by "Hammerin Hank" they were able to sustain a scoring drive. On fifth down "Jukin Joey" completed a pass to "Hammerin Hank" in the corner of the end zone to tie the ball game and end the quarter on the most controversial play of the game.

The third quarter was a defensive struggle by both teams as neither the Bucks or Forties could move the ball. The Over Forties quarterback "Jukin Joey" wished he had a place to hide as the line of "Mad Dog" and "Bubby" Bundy of the Bucks pressured him continually. The other side of the coin was about the same as the Bucks quarterbacks were swarmed upon by "Wild Bill" Nicolls and "Killer Kevin" Blucker forcing them out of their game plan.

The fourth and final quarter was highlighted by stingy defense on both sides of the ball and one BIG play. The Bucks "Junk Yard" again connected with "Big Boy" on a deep post pattern to go ahead to stay. The Forties were not about to give up and under "Big Don" were able to mount some late quarter drives but to no avail as the Bucks prevent defense prevailed. The memory of this game will live on for years to come as one of the most hard fought defensive struggles of the coveted Turkey Bowl both in mind and on videotape.

*Visiting quarterbacks will have to deal with the loud and wild dog pound.*



*Dandy Dean looks down field for an open Over-Forties receiver.*

This year's game will be Saturday, November 25, 1989 at 10:30 a.m. in Nicolls Stadium. As usual the starting time is tentative as NBC is still negotiating the television coverage contract with us. If you missed last year's game don't miss it this year!

### *Dog Pound Mania Sweeps Nicolls Stadium*

Two years ago it was offense that propelled the Young Bucks to a victory, but last year it was the Young Bucks dog defense that won the day. The dog defense gets its name from the two dog brothers- Gary "Mad Dog" and Rick "Junkyard Dog" Grover. Mad Dog and Junkyard were all over the Over-Forties quarterbacks. While their sack stats weren't that high they continually made the quarterback throw before they wanted to.

The fans who can only get tickets to the north end zone balcony- the "dog pound" as it has now become known- have taken to the dog defense by dressing up with dog masks and throwing dog biscuits on the field.

Mag Dog Grover loves the support that the dog defense is getting from the fans. His only request is that fans throw Milk Bone Dog Biscuits. "They have the best taste and don't slow me down during a big game", Mad Dog explains.

## NFL Institutes Use of Instant Replay Cameras

Who could ever forget it? Well maybe some people might...no..no..on second thought no one could forget it! The play known simply and affectionately to this day as THE PLAY. Possibly the most controversial play in the history of the N. F. L. (Nicolls Football League)....I take that back....no ifs, ands or buts...it was the most controversial play in N. F. L. history! Maybe the owners, coaches, players and grounds crews were correct in their decision to institute the instant replay rule...wait a second ....no maybes here folks....they were right to institute the rule.... after all referees are only human...right? Well...let me think here....you ever talk to one of those refs? I wonder... maybe some of them aren't human....no..no..no... that's crazy...of course they are human. Well anyway I think I think it was a good decision and anyway they can change their minds and overrule it too...can't they? I don't know if it's good for the game or not but they ought to make up their minds and stick with it! That's all I have to say on the ruling so take it for what it is worth!

## Over-Forties Dream Team

Below is a list of present and former members of the Over-Forties team. Which six would you pick for your Over-Forties Dream Team? The players are listed in alphabetical order so that we do not bias your picks. Place an "X" beside not more than six players. You get bonus points if you know who all these people are.

___ Gary Blucker	___ Kevin Blucker
___ Judy Elder	___ Donald Grover
___ Hank Grover	___ Dean Kauffman
___ John Lewis	___ Bill Nicolls
___ Bob Nicolls	___ Don Nicolls
___ Gene Nicolls	___ Mickey Nicolls
___ Jim Ridge	___ Tom Robinson
___ Joey Stephan	___ Norm Wilson

*It was this controversial touchdown pass that caused the decision to aid the officials with instant replay cameras.*



## THE SNOW BOWL OF 1971 REMEMBERED

*No matter what the weather, the game must go on.*

It was the day after Thanksgiving and the Young Bucks were heavy favorites in the big game on Saturday. The year before, the Young Bucks had defeated the Over-forties in an upset. It was their first victory ever in the Over-forties vs Young Bucks rivalry. With another year of experience and returning all six starters, the Young Bucks were ready to begin their reign of domination.

The family had gathered at the D.J.'s for the traditional Friday dinner and the Young Bucks were confident. But as everyone's stomachs were filling with food, outside the air was filling with snow flakes. They were large, wet snow flakes that soon covered the ground. It was readily apparent that this was no flurry.

**The Young Bucks were ready to begin their reign of domination.**

The Young Bucks gradually became more and more concerned about the condition of the playing field. In no time a grounds crew was organized and started making large snow balls to clear off the field. Working under the lights at Nicolls Stadium the crew managed to deposit four or more gigantic snow balls in the south end zone. But the effort was more fun than effective because the field was too large and the snow too plentiful. The Young Bucks were hoping that the snow would be gone by the next morning but everyone knew that this was not likely. The big game would be played on a snow covered field the next day.



*The grounds crew did all they could but Nicolls stadium was still covered with snow.*

The snow wasn't the only surprise for the Young Bucks as the Over-Forties engineered a come from behind victory on that Saturday morning in possibly the greatest game of the series.

*The Over-Forties were wet but not washed up.*

