



The Young Bucks/Silver Bucks Football Newsletter



Fall 1993

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The 1992 Mud Bowl

First there was the 1971 Snow Bowl. After five straight years of good weather came the Mud Bowl of 1992. It was the way football was meant to be played -- not in domes or on artificial surfaces, not in sunny Florida or Southern California but outdoors with cold mud, on a natural surface in rainy Western Pennsylvania. You can have the Rose Bowl — give me the Mud Bowl.

Given the sloppy conditions one might have anticipated that the play might be a little sloppy too. The first two plays of the game were two interceptions. Then the Silver Express got the lead out and hit on a pass from *Jolt'n Jim Ridge* to *Big Don Nicolls*. Next came a run from *Jukin Joey Stefan*. The Silver Express derailed when a fifth down pass into the end zone fell incomplete. Now it was time for the Silver defense to rise to the occasion. On the first offensive play for the Young Bucks, *Quick Kyle Kauffman* and

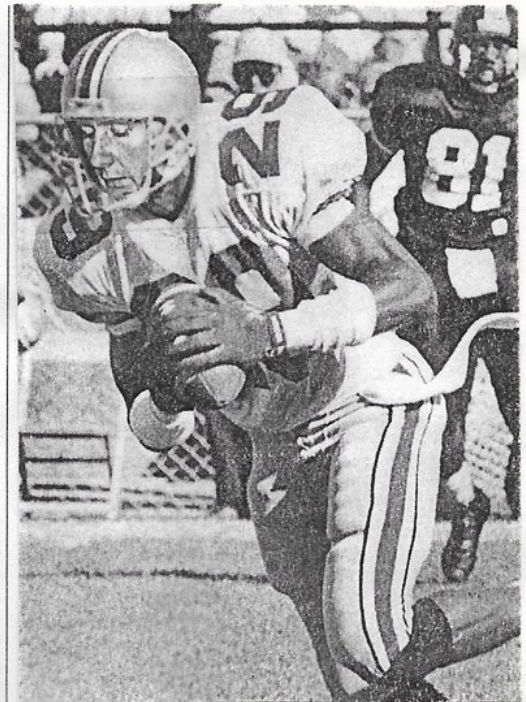
It was the way football was meant to be played ... You can have the Rose Bowl — give me the Mud Bowl.

Jamm'n Jake Grover charged through the Youngs' line and forced the quarterback to slip in the end zone for a safety. The Silver Bucks took the lead 2-0 and would have another chance to score after receiving the free kick. The Silvers tried a razzle dazzle play on first down, but veteran defensive tackle *Mad Dog Gary Grover* wasn't fooled and stopped the play for a big loss. Not being able to

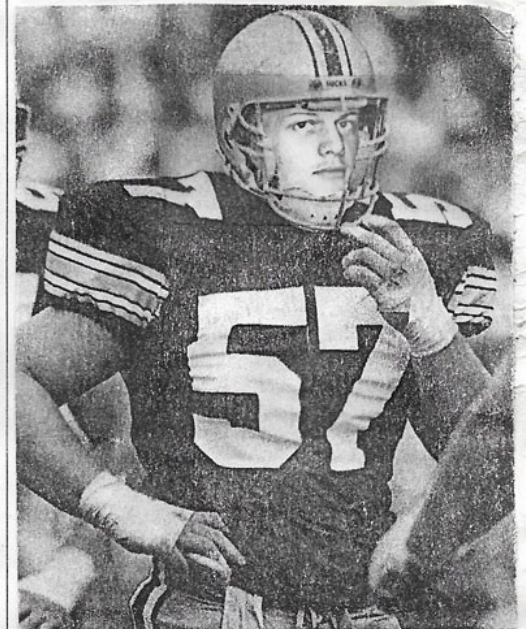
overcome bad field position, *Dandy Dean Kauffman* punted for the Silvers on fifth down. The Silvers served notice on first down that they had their own form of defensive intimidation in *Gary B. Bad* who picked up his first sack of the game. On fifth down the Youngs were also forced to punt.

The Silver offense started to find a rhythm. *Jolt'n Jim* completed consecutive passes to *Hammerin Hank Grover* and *Big Don*. On fifth down *Jolt'n Jim* found *Jukin Joey* streaking to the end zone and delivered the ball to him. It was caught but the mud near the south end zone caused *Jukin Joey* to slip and fall on the one yard line. So close and yet so far! The Youngs got out of trouble on first down but *Jamm'n Jake* registered his first official sack of the game. The Youngs were forced to punt again. The Silvers wanted to run some clock off before the end of the half. *Jukin Joey* ran the ball around the left side but was stopped by the pine trees. Two plays later the Youngs' moving tree, *Too Small Dale*, intercepted a pass and also ran into the pines. The Youngs' offense went into their two minute drill. *Greg Bubby Bundy* took the ball around the right side of the line and picked up good yardage before he was welcomed by the pine trees. *Bubby Bundy* then threw two completions to the *Twin Towers*. *Game Breaker Bruce Nicolls'* reception put the Young Bucks within striking distance of the end zone. *Hammerin Hank* knew exactly what the Youngs were going to do. They were going to try their favorite flag pattern. Just at the last second *Hammerin Hank* made a break in front of the Young receiver and intercepted the ball on

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Above - Jolt'n Jim, minus his beanie, rolls out to look for an open receiver.



Cap'n Crunch Kevin Blucker calls the defensive signals for the Young Bucks from his middle linebacker position.

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the one yard line to end the half. The Silver Bucks had turned the momentum of the game back in their favor and went into half time with a 2-0 lead having dominated the stunned Young Bucks.

Would the outcome of the Mud Bowl be the same as the Snow Bowl? Were the Young Bucks only fair weather players? The Young Bucks had the answers on their opening drive of the second half. **Bubby Bundy** completed a pass on first down and ran left on third down into the Silver Buck red zone. The run left set up the old lob into the high corner of the south end zone. **Bubby Bundy** rolled left to pull the defense in and then tossed the ball high in the air over them to **Too Small Dale** who pulled it in for a touchdown. **Nifty Neil Chessin** knocked down the attempted point after and the score was 2-6 in favor of the Young Bucks.

It was time to see if the Silver Bucks had a response. They went to their bag of tricks and pulled out an unusual play. The center hiked the ball. **Jolt'n Jim** reflected the ball off his chest and into the arms of **Jukin Joey** who completed a pass to **Hammerin Hank** who was stopped by, who else, the pine trees. **Cap'n Crunch Kevin Blucker** sensed the Silver offense was starting to heat up again. He dropped back into his middle linebacker position, picked off a Silver bullet, cut right and was forced out of bounds by **Big Don**. Both went sprawling into the spruces. Now it was time for **Wild Bill Nicolls** and the Young Bucks to capitalize on the turnover. On the second play of the drive **Wild Bill** threw a post pattern to **Bubby Bundy** who went up high to pull in the second touchdown of the half. Two possessions for the Young Bucks resulted in two touchdowns to start the second half. **Ski'n Ian Nicolls** carried the ball for the PAT, but was stopped short of the end zone. The score was now Silver Bucks 2, Young Bucks 12. As it turned out both offenses would be shutdown the rest of the game as the defenses took over.

The next fifteen series averaged just two plays each and included twelve interceptions and two sacks. **Ham-**

merin Hank led the group with three interceptions followed by **Bubby Bundy**, **Jukin Joey** and **Cap'n Crunch Kevin** each with two. **Nifty Neil**, **Super Dave**, and **Too Small Dale** each picked up one interception. **Ski'n Ian** and **Bobby Bubba Smith** combined on one sack while **Wild Bill** added another. After two more series that featured one run and nine straight incompletions, the Youngs decided to keep the ball on the ground. First **Ski'n Ian** scooted around the left side. Next **Bobby Bubba Smith** carried the ball on a student body left. The Youngs then mixed it up with a

I don't understand the big attraction about those pine trees.

pass to **Bubba Smith** who made a diving catch at the Silvers' one yard line. The Silver Buck defense would bend but not break and took over on downs. The last four series of the game appropriately ended with four interceptions. **Super Dave** picked off two errant passes, **Jukin Joey** had one pick, and **Dandy Dean** ended the game with an interception in the end zone. What has come to be known as the Mud Bowl ended the same way it began -- with an interception. **Hammerin Hank Grover** with a game high of four interceptions and a game high of seven catches was voted MVP.

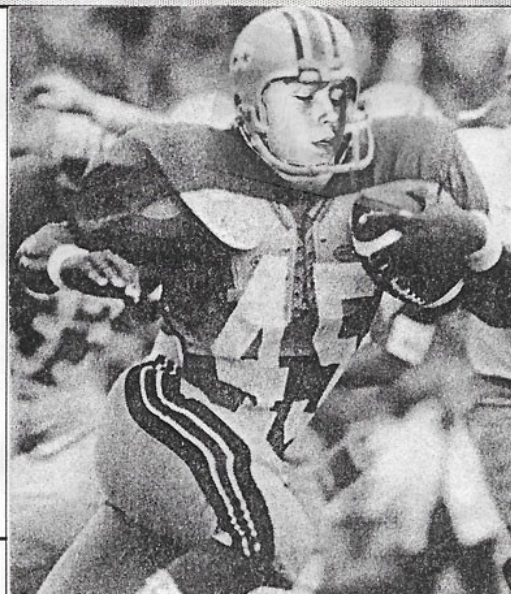
Dear Turkey Bowl Fans:

Hello to all of the players and fans of the Nicolls Football League. I'm told by 'Dandy' Dean Kauffman that this is Turkey Bowl XI. A great tradition - a winning tradition - that unites and strengthens a wonderful family. Dave told me about the Turkey Bowl and his family when we moved to Columbus. I've told Dandy Dean that we would love to play in the Turkey Bowl game because we know that it is 'THE' bowl game. Right now we smell the roses and are playing to get into the Rose Bowl game. One of our goals each year is to go undefeated. Have a great game and a good time at Nicolls Stadium on November 27th.



GO BUCKS.
Sincerely,

John Cooper

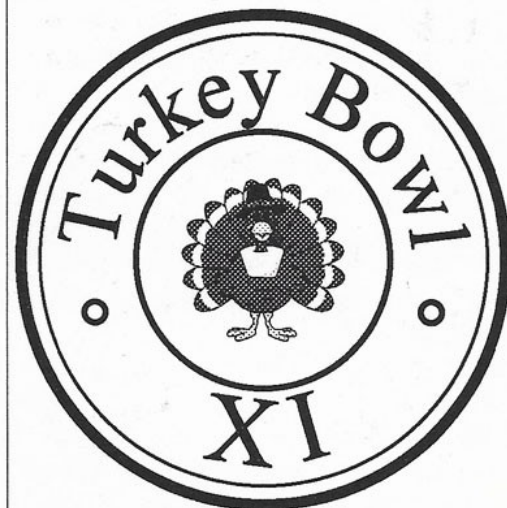


Quick Kyle Kauffman beats the Young Buck defenders to the corner.

AUNT RUTH'S FUDGE

Enjoy the exciting taste of Aunt Ruth's Fudge made from a highly-guarded secret formula by Ruth Ann Lewis in Virginia.

Present this coupon and ten dollars for a box of five delicious pieces of fudge.



This year's game will be Saturday, November 27, 1993 at 10:30 a.m. at **Nicolls Stadium**. As usual the starting time is tentative because NBC has not finalized its schedule.

Redshirt Freshmen

James Bundy Jonathan Bundy
 Cody Grover Bobby Nicolls
 Max Elder Joel Bundy
 Jeffrey Grover

Cheerleaders

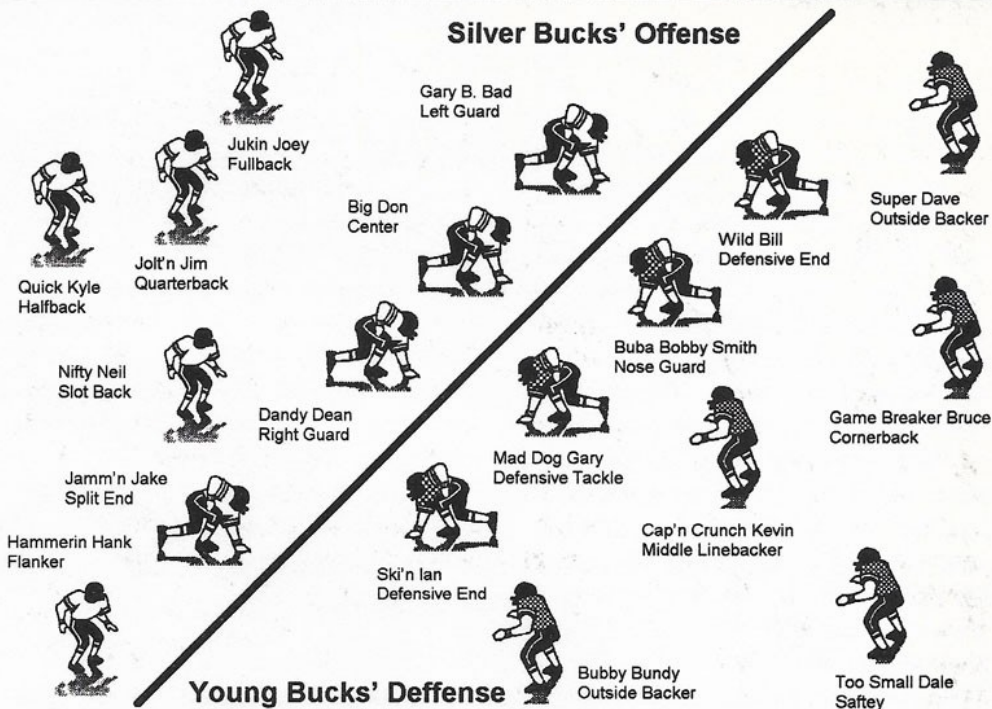
Jessica Nicolls Katie Nicolls
 Emilie Ridge Jamie Grover
 Hillary Nicolls Marieta Nicolls
 Lindsay Kauffman

Field Officials

Gene Nicolls..... Chief Linesman
 Bob Nicolls..... Video Cameraman
 Dale Nicolls..... Chief Groundskeeper
 Ruth Ann Lewis. Chief Heckler

Training Staff

Pattye Lou Nicolls. Team Physician
 Joanne Nicolls Head Trainer
 Bev Nicolls Chief Dietitian
 Cody Grover Strength Coach



How the Silver Bucks and Young Bucks lined up against each other in last year's Mud Bowl.

Interview With Silver Coach — Big Don

Ima: Big Don, how many years have you been coaching football?

Big Don: Well, let's see. I've been around more years than any of the current coaches. Take Boddy Bowden or John Cooper - - - they're just young pups - newcomers - compared to me. I started coaching big time back in 1968 with the Silver Bucks. We went by a different name in those days. The Over-Forties,

Ima: That's impressive. Twenty-five years. You must have a lot of wins for all of those years.

Big Don: Yes, it's been a rewarding experience for me. It gives me great self-satisfaction to - - .

Ima: How many victories do you have, Big Don?

Big Don: Well, you see. The satisfaction I get out of working with the players, getting a strong staff, putting together a winning combination, and - - .

Ima: Yes, but, how many wins, Big Don?

Big Don: Oh yes. You know, in the

early days we didn't do a lot of recruiting. We had to go with what we had. We just - - .

Ima: You had some good players. How about Mean Gene and Travelin' Tom? Or Marvelous Mickey?

Big Don: Yes, We also had Breakaway Bob and Gotcha Gary and Cowboy Don Grover. Yes, we had some great players. Now, the officiating wasn't always what it should be. I remember a couple of calls that went against us in 1970 that cost us the game. I protested to the league commissioner; but, -

Ima: Big Don, what's your win-loss record over those twenty-five years of coaching?

Big Don: Now let me make it perfectly clear about this. In those days we played under some pretty poor conditions - - - like the game that was played in Pearson Park before Nicolls Stadium was built. Then there was the weather - - - not always the best for a fast moving team like ours. You see, we - - .

Ima: But, didn't you win during a

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