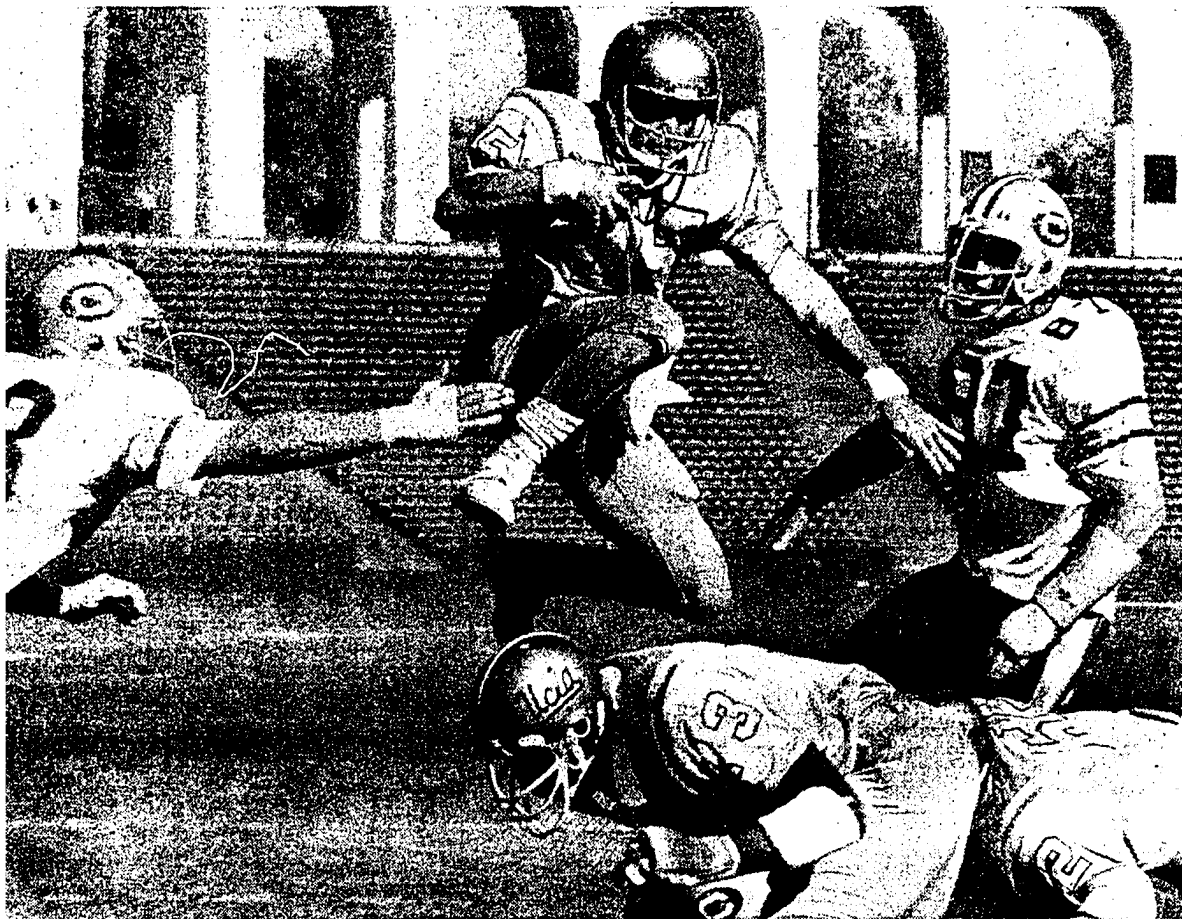


# UCLA Beats Cal, 28-14; Vermeil Cries Foul

MAL FLORENCE

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LEAVING BEARS BEHIND—UCLA quarterback John Sciarra hurdles Bruin guard Phil McKinnely while driving between a pair of Cali-

fornia defenders, end Phil Heck (88) and tackle Chuck Hextrum (87), to score on 8-yard run in first quarter Saturday.

Times photo by Steve Fontanini

# UCLA Beats Cal, 28-14; Vermeil Cries Foul

BY MAL FLORENCE  
Times Staff Writer

California took its best shots—some of them called cheap by Dick Vermeil—but poised John Sciarra and UCLA weren't intimidated Saturday at the Coliseum.

The Bruins won, 28-14, to emerge as the No. 1 challenger to USC in the Run to the Roses. UCLA and USC are undefeated (3-0) in Pacific 8 competition. Cal is 3-1.

As expected, the Golden Bears had

a prolific offense, featuring strong Chuck Muncie, but they made almost as many mistakes as they did yards.

Vermeil, the UCLA coach, was upset about an incident that happened late in the first half. Sciarra took what the quarterback and his coach called a flagrantly late hit.

After handing the ball off to half-back Wendell Tyler, Sciarra was out of the play when California cornerback Jeff Moye buried his helmet into the quarterback's stomach. Sci-

arra lurched to the sideline clutching his stomach but returned a down later.

"It was a flagrant foul—a cheap shot—and it was the second one he had gotten from this particular player," Vermeil said. "After Sciarra got hurt I walked three yards onto the field and got a 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. The official was justified in penalizing me but it was worth it."

The UCLA coach has complained

all season that Sciarra has been the target of late hits.

"The officials have to do a better job," Vermeil said. "It's a living for us but just a game to him (Sciarra). There's too much of this thing going on in the Pac-8 now. Sciarra has taken more hits after a play than anyone I know."

The alleged late hit didn't disrupt Sciarra's game. The veer-T quarterback ran for two touchdowns and

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passed for another as the Bruins built a 28-7 lead before the Bears rallied in the final quarter.

As for the incident, Sciarra said, "I had handed off on a dive play and was carrying out my fake. I stopped, turned back to the play and this Cal player hit me in the gut. All I said to him is, 'What's your problem?'"

"He had hit me late earlier and I told the officials about it and they said they would watch it. Now don't get me wrong. When the quarterback has the ball, he is a marked man and the defense has a right to get on him. But not when the play is over. Yes, it was a cheap shot."

Moye, 5-10, 180, a junior from Modesto making his first start, was unavailable for comment.

As for the game, the Bruins started slowly and led only 14-7 at halftime, the result of two short scoring drives—one set up by wide receiver Steve Rivera's fumbled punt. It was just one of many errors by the bumbling Bears.

Sciarra sent the Bruins on two 71-yard scoring drives to touchdowns in the fourth quarter and, after Cal countered to make it 28-14, another goof—this time by Muncie—broke the Bears' back.

Cal quarterback Joe Roth, erratic earlier, was on target in the final, frantic minutes. A successful outside kick gave the Bears a first down at midfield and his sharp passes to Rivera brought a first down at the 13.

Momentarily stopped, Roth, on fourth down, lofted a pass to Muncie on the 6. It looked like a touchdown but Muncie dropped the ball.

So instead of being back in the game at 28-21 with 3:07 left, the Bears were out of it.

But Muncie probably shouldn't be singled out. The 6-3, 220-pound tailback carried the brunt of the Cal offense. He slashed through gaping holes for 126 yards on 23 carries and broke Johnny Olszewski's school career rushing record. He now has 2,512 yards—eight ahead of Johnny O, a famed runner in the 50s.

The Bears totaled 441 net yards to the Bruins' 451 but Cal, perhaps jittery over its big chance to get back in the Rose Bowl race for the first time since 1958, made a carload of mistakes. Some of them:

—On Cal's first series, Rivera dropped a first-down pass on the UCLA 28, killing a drive.

—Later in the first quarter, fullback Tom Newton fumbled to linebacker Ray Bell at the UCLA 6.

—In the third quarter, quarterback Fred Besana, momentarily relieving Roth, got a delay of the game penalty and juggled the ball when the Bears were threatening from the Bruin 36.

—On the same series, Muncie's dive for a first down on fourth and 1 from the UCLA 29 was disrupted by nose guard Cliff Frazier. Muncie sailed 3 yards for a touchdown with a similar dive in the second quarter but Frazier hit the tailback in midair for no gain this time.

—Early in the fourth quarter, with Cal trailing, 21-7, Roth had a first down at the UCLA 25. But the Bears were penalized for holding prior to Oscar Edwards' intercepting Roth.

—Then, of course, Muncie's drop at the UCLA 6.

The Bruins made some errors—Tyler fumbling on the Cal 8 at the outset of the third quarter—but they were minimal compared to the Bears.

Tyler had another big day. He rushed for 145 yards on 23 carries and kept up his impressive average—6.2 for Saturday's game.

Halfback Eddie Ayers netted 84 yards on 17 carries, while his replacement, Jim Brown, averaged 5.8 yards and scored a touchdown on a 6-yard run.

As for Sciarra, he wasn't impressive statistically, only in implementing the UCLA offense, especially in the second half. He rushed for 36 yards on 15 attempts and completed 4 of 8 passes, including an 8-yard touchdown pass to tight end Don Pederson (14-7) in the second quarter.

But his two touchdown runs were pure Sciarra. He hurdled one of his own teammates on an 8-yard thrust up the middle in the first quarter (7-0) and repeated the maneuver on a 5-yard sweep in the fourth quarter (28-7).

## Rose Bowl Handicap

PACIFIC 8

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
USC .....	3	0	0	1.000	69	20
UCLA .....	3	0	0	1.000	96	58
California .....	3	1	0	.750	132	80
Washington .....	2	1	0	.667	83	48
Stanford .....	2	1	0	.667	99	66
Oregon State .....	0	3	0	.000	38	110
Oregon .....	0	3	0	.000	27	78
Washington State .....	0	4	0	.000	68	152

BIG 10

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Ohio State .....	4	0	0	1.000	161	6
Michigan .....	4	0	0	1.000	163	19
Illinois .....	3	1	0	.750	114	80
Northwestern .....	2	2	0	.500	75	111
Wisconsin .....	2	2	0	.500	40	107
Indiana .....	1	3	0	.250	37	119
Purdue .....	1	3	0	.250	71	107
Iowa .....	1	3	0	.250	39	117
Michigan State .....	1	3	0	.250	63	73
Minnesota .....	1	3	0	.250	83	107

So UCLA improved its overall record to 5-1-1 before a disappointing crowd of 36,100 and is probably in line for a bowl invitation, perhaps the Rose Bowl. The Bruins play three of their remaining four games at home and should be substantially favored against Washington here next

Saturday, Oregon and Oregon State. As usual, it appears that only the Trojans bar the Bruins' path to Pasadena.

But some of the Bruins aren't ruling out the possibility of Cal upsetting USC next Saturday at Berkeley.

"I think Cal has a chance," Sciarra said. "This isn't taking anything away from USC. They're undefeated and deserve their No. 3 rating. But Cal has a very good team. They'll score some points."

Frazier said the Bears were more physical than they usually are and said they have a shot at upsetting the Trojans.

Vermeil seemed emotionally drained in the dressing room. He hugged and congratulated his players before meeting the press. He said he didn't do a good job of playcalling in the first half (when Cal shut off the option pitches) but felt his team adjusted in the second half.

He drew another unsportsmanlike conduct penalty in the fourth quarter when Cal was driving after the on-side kick. He stepped onto the field to protest what he thought was intentional grounding by Roth.

"I just lost my poise on that one," he said. "There was no excuse for it."