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Remarks for San Francisco 49ers 2/3/89 [OA 6853]

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REMARKS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

EAST ROOM

FEBRUARY 3, 1989

EDDIE DEBARTOLO, COACH WALSH AND YOUR STAFF, AND THE PLAYERS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS, LET ME FIRST SAY CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

YOUR VICTORY LAST MONTH ESTABLISHED THE 49ERS AS, INDISPUTABLY, THE WORLD CHAMPIONS IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD.

WITH THIS, YOUR THIRD SUPER BOWL TITLE IN EIGHT YEARS, YOU RE-WROTE THE RECORD BOOKS AND RAISED THE GAME OF FOOTBALL TO A NEW LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE.

IN DEVISING YOUR GAME PLAN, BILL WALSH PROVED ONCE AGAIN WHY HE'S CONSIDERED ONE OF THE GREATEST COACHES EVER. AND IN LEADING YOUR TEAM 97 YARDS IN THE FINAL THREE MINUTES, JOE MONTANA ONCE AGAIN SHOWED HIS GRACE UNDER PRESSURE. JOE, I GUESS MY ONLY QUESTION IS: WHY DID YOU WAIT SO LONG TO SHOW IT? (LL)

AND JERRY RICE -- WHAT CAN I SAY THAT HASN'T ALREADY BEEN SAID? I'VE HEARD THERE'S A NEW TV SERIES COMING OUT BASED ON YOUR SUPER BOWL PERFORMANCE. IT'S GOING TO BE CALLED, "MIAMI RICE." (LL) AND IT'S GOING TO BE AVAILABLE IN EVERY CITY EXCEPT ONE -- CINCINNATI. (LL)

JOE AND JERRY HANDLED THE AERIAL ATTACK, BUT WHEN YOUR TEAM NEEDED THE TOUGH YARDAGE ON THE GROUND YOU USUALLY TURNED TO ROGER CRAIG.

IN HIS YEARS AS A 49ER, ROGER HAS GIVEN A WHOLE NEW MEANING TO THE WORDS "GOLD RUSH." WHEN HE RUNS THE FOOTBALL, CHANCES ARE YOU'RE HEADED FOR PAYDIRT.

IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO MENTION THE OFFENSIVE STARS WITHOUT ALSO GIVING CREDIT TO THE DEFENSE. DURING THE FIRST HALF, WHEN THE OFFENSE WAS HAVING A TOUGH TIME, THE DEFENSE KEPT YOU IN THE GAME WITH THEIR COOL, SMART, HARD-HITTING FOOTBALL.

AND SPEAKING OF TOUGH TIMES -- IN ALL OF THE HOOPLA SURROUNDING YOUR SUPER BOWL VICTORY, MOST PEOPLE HAVE FORGOTTEN THE ADVERSITY YOU OVERCAME JUST TO GET THERE. BUT YOU NEVER GAVE UP. YOU PULLED TOGETHER AS A TEAM. YOU CAME BACK, STEP-BY-STEP, GAME-BY-GAME. YOU ELIMINATED YOUR MISTAKES AND YOU NEVER STOPPED STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE. THERE'S A LESSON IN THAT FOR THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENTS AND ATHLETES WITH US TODAY, AND THAT'S WHY I WANTED YOU TO SHARE IN THIS CEREMONY.

SOME OF YOU HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED EXCELLENCE IN FOOTBALL, AND PERHAPS IN OTHER SPORTS AS WELL. I CAN TELL YOU, AND THE 49ER PLAYERS WILL AGREE, THAT BEING GOOD IN SPORTS IS NOT ENOUGH. AND TO ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE, YOU HAVE TO BE EDUCATED FOR EXCELLENCE.

THE MAIN INGREDIENT IN EACH PERSON'S SUCCESS IS INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE. IT ALWAYS HAS BEEN, AND IT ALWAYS WILL BE.

TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE HERE AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY, I'D LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT WHAT YOU ACHIEVE IN YOUR LIFE DEPENDS A LOT ON WHAT YOU ACHIEVE IN SCHOOL DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS. AND IF I COULD OFFER ONE PIECE OF ADVICE IT WOULD BE THIS: STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE IN ALL THINGS. DON'T ACCEPT MEDIOCRITY. BEING SATISFIED WITH MEDIOCRITY MIGHT BE THE EASY WAY OUT, BUT STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE IS THE ONLY WAY UP.

IF YOU'RE WILLING TO WORK HARD AND MAKE SACRIFICES, YOU
CAN ACCOMPLISH JUST ABOUT ANYTHING. THAT'S WHAT THE
AMERICAN DREAM IS ALL ABOUT.

AGAIN -- TO ALL THE 49ERS, MY CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
WORTHY CHAMPIONS.

#

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

YOU WERE CALLED BY— YOU WERE VISITED BY—

OF (Organization)

PLEASE PHONE ► FTS AUTOVON

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU
 RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

*Sheraton
Washington*
328-2000
Mones
NWIT
Energy Wisis

RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

63-110 NSN 7540-00-634-4018
★ U.S. GPO: 1986-181-246/40015

STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-81)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

1:00 P.M. NEWS UPDATE (continued)

PAN AM 103 (Lockerbie, Scotland/Reuter) -- Police investigating the bombing of Pan Am 103 declined comment on reports that a Palestinian leader was responsible and the bomb was planted in a CIA man's baggage. A spokesman for Ahmed Jibril denied involvement.

ARMS SALES (AP) -- President Bush has informed Congress he may authorize the sale of 315 front-line Abrams tanks to Saudi Arabia and 200 to Kuwait while providing the United Arab Emirates with 40 F-18 fighter jets, informed sources said. Egypt would get 150 Hawk missiles and Israel 200 shoulder-fired Stingers, while Jordan again would receive no American weapons this year, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

AFGHANISTAN (Kabul/AP) -- Artillery fire echoed through the capital as President Najib sought to assure reporters his government will survive once Soviet soldiers are gone and his troops alone face Moslem guerrillas. A Moslem guerrilla leader in Pakistan predicted the Najib government will collapse as soon as the Red Army has left.

SINO-SOVIET/SHEVARDNADZE (Beijing/UPI) -- Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, on his first day of talks with Chinese officials, said the search for peace in Cambodia is gaining momentum and China indicated the dispute will no longer hinder Sino-Soviet ties. At a welcoming banquet Thursday evening, Shevardnadze praised recent direct Sino-Vietnamese talks on Cambodia and said his discussions with Chinese officials are encouraging a political solution.

HOUSING SALES (UPI) -- Sales of new single-family houses rose 0.6% in December with robust gains in the Northeast, the Commerce Department said.

UNESCO (Stockholm/Reuter) -- The director-general of UNESCO said the U.N. body was returning to its original goals to resolve the crisis which prompted the U.S. and Britain to leave the agency four years ago. Federico Mayor Zaragoza said UNESCO hoped its new course would encourage the countries to rejoin this year. "We have decided to return to UNESCO's original objectives -- human rights, development based on human resources, the environment and cultural diversity," he told a news conference.

KHOMEINI PARDONS (UPI) -- Ayatollah Khomeini pardoned four men he ordered jailed for broadcasting an interview with a woman who chose a Japanese soap-opera star as her role model over the daughter of the prophet Mohammed, the official news agency said. Khomeini issued the pardon following a request from Chief Justice Ayatollah Ardebili, IRNA reported. The men were not flogged and were released from prison yesterday.

GROUNDHOG DAY (Punxsutawney, Pa./AP) -- Punxsutawney Phil, that plump, pampered groundhog touted as America's best mammalian meteorological prognosticator, saw his shadow today, predicting six more weeks of a "kinder and gentler" winter. "In honor of America's new president, George Bush, the groundhog stood tall and proud. He spotted a thin, short shadow," Punxsutawney Groundhog Club President James H. Means told spectators gathered at Gobbler's Knob, a wooded knoll about three miles south of Punxsutawney.

697-3834

Change ←

General stuff now

written + spoken testimony
unsh

Ken
Krieg

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Bush will meet with owners,
two coaches + team in state
Dinning Room then proceed
into East Room where crowd
will be seated. Crowd will
consist of 100-150 regional
high school kids. Each
school will be represented
by football * team captains,
* football coaches + * student
Body Presidents

Speech should include following
topics:

Excellence
Everyone Can Achieve

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CHRISTINA:

YOUR JOB, SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO ACCEPT IT....

I NEED:

✓-- SPORTS ILLUSTRATED ARTICLE ABOUT THE
AND THE SI ARTICLE PREVIEWING IT.

*Super
Bowl*

✓-- ANY AND ALL GOOD FEATURE STORIES ON
KEY PLAYERS -- RICE, MONTANA, JOHN TAYLOR,
ROGER CRAIG, BILL RATHMAN, ETC. ALSO
ARTICLES ON THE COACH, BILL WALSH, AND THE
OWNER, EDDIE DEBARTOLO.

✓-- PREVIOUS REMARKS BY PRESIDENT REAGAN TO
SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS AND NATIONAL COLLEGE
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS. THIS IS THE THIRD
SUPERBOWL THE 49ERS HAVE WON THIS DECADE
SO REAGAN HAS PROBABLY MET THESE GUYS
TWICE BEFORE.

IF YOU CANNOT PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION
BY COB TODAY, I WILL SELF-DESTRUCT IN
FIVE SECONDS.

OF COURSE, IF YOU OR ANY MEMBER OF THE
RESEARCH STAFF SHOULD BE KILLED CARRYING
OUT THIS ASSIGNMENT, I WILL DISAVOW ANY
KNOWLEDGE OF IT.

*- Mark
12829*

*for example, the
WFO did a good
story on Jerry
Rice the week
of the Super Bowl.*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mark McIntyre
FROM: Christina Martin
SUBJECT: 49ers' Win\Loss Record

| | | |
|----------|-------------|-------|
| 09-04-88 | New Orleans | 34-33 |
| 09-11-88 | New York | 20-17 |
| 09-18-88 | Atlanta | 17-34 |
| 09-25-88 | Seattle | 38-7 |
| 10-02-88 | Detroit | 20-13 |
| 10-09-88 | Denver | 13-16 |
| 10-16-88 | Los Angeles | 24-21 |
| 10-24-88 | Chicago | 9-10 |
| 10-30-88 | Minn. | 24-21 |
| 11-06-88 | Pheonix | 23-24 |
| 11-13-88 | Los Angeles | 3-9 |
| 11-21-88 | Washington | 37-21 |
| 11-27-88 | San Diego | 48-10 |
| 12-04-88 | Atlanta | 13-3 |
| 12-11-88 | Now Orleans | 30-17 |
| 12-18-88 | Los Angeles | 16-38 |

Jerry Walker Dir. of P.R.
Rodney Knox Assistant
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Alfred BaMan Sports Illustrated Library
(212) 522-1212

49ers Media Guide
New York Times 12-23-88

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mark McIntyre
FROM: Christina Martin *mm*
SUBJECT: 49ers' Win\Loss Record

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|-------|---|
| 09-04-88 | New Orleans | 34-33 | W |
| 09-11-88 | New York | 20-17 | W |
| 09-18-88 | Atlanta | 17-34 | L |
| 09-25-88 | Seattle | 38-7 | W |
| 10-02-88 | Detroit | 20-13 | W |
| 10-09-88 | Denver | 13-16 | L |
| 10-16-88 | Los Angeles | 24-21 | W |
| 10-24-88 | Chicago | 9-10 | L |
| 10-30-88 | Minn. | 24-21 | W |
| 11-06-88 | Pheonix | 23-24 | L |
| 11-13-88 | Los Angeles | 3-9 | L |
| 11-21-88 | Washington | 37-21 | |
| 11-27-88 | San Diego | 48-10 | |
| 12-04-88 | Atlanta | 13-3 | |
| 12-11-88 | Now Orleans | 30-17 | |
| 12-18-88 | Los Angeles | 16-38 | |

(McIntyre)
February 1, 1989
8 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VISIT BY THE SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS
STATE DINING ROOM
FEBRUARY 3, 1989

Ed DeBartolo, Jr.

should he be identified?

Eddie DeBartolo, coach Walsh and your staff, and the players of the San Francisco 49ers, let me first say "congratulations and welcome to the White House."

((You know, on the other side of the White House is the East Room, the largest room in this magnificent building. Over the years, it's been used for some extraordinary events. Mrs. Adams used it to dry her laundry; Teddy Roosevelt held wrestling exhibitions there. After this ceremony I thought we'd go over, put on the pads, and scrimmage the White House press corps. (LL) You guys are on my side.)) (LL)

*Bill x2550
White House
Curator*

Your victory last month established the 49ers as, indisputably, the N.F.L.'s team of the '80s. With this, your third Super Bowl title in eight years, you re-wrote the record books and raised the game of football to a new level of excellence.

*Port 7 illust.
B. Review x21
37*

*USA Today
1-23-89
Sports Section*

*8 yrs.
Sports Illustrated
"Super Bowl"
p. 21*

OK 1-22-89

Yes, because he is noted for innovations + quiet "off-screen" life

questionable more innovative than record-breaking

In devising your game plan, Bill Walsh proved once again why he's considered one of the greatest coaches ever. And in leading your team 97 yards in the final three minutes, Joe Montana once

*USA Today
1-23-89
"Montana
moves to
the QB for
1985"
p. 30*

again showed his grace under pressure. Joe, I guess my only question is: Why did you wait so long to show it? (LL)

And Jerry Rice -- what can I say that hasn't already been said? I've heard there's a new TV series coming out based on your Super Bowl performance. It's going to be called, "Miami Rice." (LL) And it's going to be available in every city except one -- Cincinnati. (LL)

Joe and Jerry handled the aerial attack, but when your team needed the tough yardage on the ground you usually turned to Roger Craig. In his years as a 49er, Roger has given a whole new meaning to the words "Gold Rush." When he runs the football, chances are you're headed for paydirt.

I also want to single out Roger's running mate, the fullback, Tom Rathman, who does a lot of blocking. Typically, fullbacks and the big guys up front who do the blocking don't get much credit. They work hard, they get bruised and battered, but they remain fairly anonymous. ((Frankly, it's a lot like being Vice President.)) (LL)

It wouldn't be fair to mention the offensive stars without also giving credit to the defense. During the Super Bowl the 49er defense played cool, smart, hard-hitting football. During the first half, when the offense was having a tough time, the defense kept you in the game.

Miami Rice
Washington
Sports section
"Rice is
Washington
field or off

General
Information
Charles
Roccalisse
Sports Fan
x 7140

defense
did come
game until
4th quarter

Not
necessarily
a hard time

And speaking of tough times -- in all of the hoopla surrounding your Super Bowl victory, most people have forgotten the adversity you overcame just to get there. At one point in the season, you had six wins, five losses, and many of the pundits were writing you off. ((I think they must have been the same pundits who predicted the Democrats would win last fall's election.)) (LL)

New York Times Sports Section

But you never gave up. You pulled together as a team. You came back, step-by-step, game-by-game. You eliminated your mistakes and you never stopped striving for excellence. There's a lesson in that for the student-athletes with us today, and that's why I wanted you to share in this ceremony.

In America, whether you're trying to win football games or trying to do a good job at work or studying for an exam, there's no substitute for plain, old-fashioned dedication. If you shoot for the stars, you may not quite reach them, but you'll always be better off for having tried.

Remember talking to high school students who may be going into college. → 100-150 high school students (regional) per Bobbie Kulberg x711410

You, young people, represent our nation's future. After you graduate from school you will go out and enter the workforce.

What you achieve in your life depends a lot on what you achieve in school during the next few years. And if I could offer one piece of advice it would be this: Strive for excellence in all things. Don't accept mediocrity. Being satisfied with

mediocrity might be the easy way out, but striving for excellence is the only way up.

And, really, it doesn't matter what you decide to do with your life as long as you're committed to being the best. If you want to be a teacher, then be the best teacher you can be. If you want to be an artist, then be the best artist you can be. If you want to be a medical doctor, then be the best doctor you can be.

As you go through life you will find that you don't always succeed exactly the way you planned. You won't always win. You won't always be number 1. ^{spell out?} But, if you find joy in the effort, then I guarantee you -- you will lead fulfilling lives. You will be satisfied in the knowledge that you did your best.

Some of you have already achieved excellence in football, and perhaps in other sports as well. I can tell you, and the 49er players will agree, that being good in sports is not enough. It's not enough to have fast feet if you have a slow mind. And to achieve excellence, you have to be educated for excellence.

So, hit the books every bit as hard as you hit your opponents on the football field. Education is the key to opportunity. It will unlock doors that otherwise might be closed to you.

→ Regional football team captains and football coaches
Bobbie Killmerg 27140

The main ingredient in each person's success is individual initiative. It always has been, and it always will be. If you're willing to work hard and make sacrifices, you can accomplish just about anything. That's what the American dream is all about.

So, in closing, I'd like to congratulate the entire San Francisco 49er organization: You're the best. You're the champions. You have reached the pinnacle of your profession.

And to all of you, strive to be the best. Work to be champions so that someday you, too, will reach your own pinnacles of excellence.

Thank you.

#

SUPER BOWL XXIII: 49ERS 20, BENGALS 16

How the game was won and lost

FIRST QUARTER

San Francisco wins the coin toss, elects to receive.

Breech kick to Sydney at 20, out to 27 **SAN FRANCISCO BALL**

1-10 SF 27 Rice 5 reverse left (Williams).
2-3 SF 32 Craig 0 run left (Buck).
3-5 SF 32 Montana 10 pass to Craig right (Bussay) Wallace injured on play.

1-10 SF 42 Montana -8 sack (Fulcher).
2-16 SF 38 Craig 6 run left (Williams).

3-10 SF 42 Montana -2 recovery of fumbled snap.

4-12 SF 40 Helton 34 punt to Cin. 26.
12:31 remaining

CINCINNATI BALL

1-10 CIN 26 Eslason 17 pass to Brown right (McVey).

1-10 CIN 43 Woods 8 run left (Turner).
2-2 SF 49 Brooks -1 reverse right (Fuller).

3-3 SF 50 Woods 6 run left (Lott).
1-10 SF 44 Eslason incomplete screen to Holman.

2-10 SF 44 Woods 5 run left (Haley).
3-5 SF 39 Eslason incomplete to McGee in middle.

4-5 SF 39 Johnson 36 punt to San Francisco 3.

8:16 remaining

SAN FRANCISCO BALL

1-10 SF 3 Craig 8 run right (Wacots).
Krumrie injured on play.

2-2 SF 11 Montana 2 scramble left (Williams).

1-10 SF 13 Montana 8 pass right to Frank (White).

2-2 SF 21 Montana 12 pass left to Rice (Thomas).

1-10 SF 33 Grant (Cin.) roughing the passer penalty.

1-10 SF 48 Craig 9 run left (Wilcoits).
2-1 CIN 43 Rathman 3 run (Williams).

1-10 CIN 40 Rathman 0 run right (Grant).
2-10 CIN 40 Montana incomplete to Taylor middle.

3-10 CIN 40 Montana 16 screen to Rathman (Bussay).

1-10 CIN 24 Montana incomplete to Wilson.

2-10 CIN 24 Montana incomplete to Craig middle.

3-10 CIN 24 Montana incomplete to Rice right.

4-10 CIN 24 Cofer 41-yard FG.
13 plays, 73 yards, 5:02 used

SAN FRANCISCO 3, Cincinnati 0
3:14 remaining

Cofer kick to Jennings (touchback)

CINCINNATI BALL

1-10 CIN 20 Brooks 3 run right (Roberts).
2-7 CIN 23 Woods 8 run middle (Lott).

1-10 CIN 31 Woods 0 run left (Lott).
2-10 CIN 31 Eslason incomplete to Riggs left.

3-10 CIN 31 Eslason incomplete to Brown middle.

4-10 CIN 31 Johnson 50 punt to Taylor at SF 19, to SF 30 (Barker).
0:03 remaining

SAN FRANCISCO BALL

1-10 SF 30 Montana 16 pass to Rice right.

1-10 SF 46 Montana 8 pass to Craig left.

END OF FIRST QUARTER: SAN FRANCISCO 3, CINCINNATI 0

SECOND QUARTER

2-2 CIN 48 Craig 5 run middle (Wilcoits).
1-10 CIN 41 Montana 30 pass to Rice right (Wilcoits).

1-10 CIN 11 Rathman 2 run (Williams).
3-4 CIN 9 Montana incomplete to Frank (Horton).

3-6 CIN 8 Rathman 7 run middle (Horton, Fisher).
Timeout, San Francisco

4-2 CIN 2 Bad snap on Cofer 19 field goal attempt, no good, left.

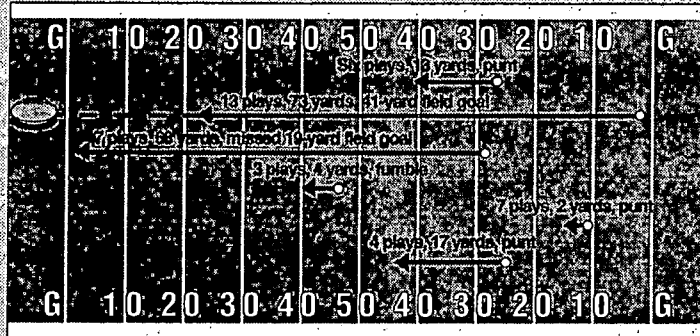
12:59 remaining

CINCINNATI BALL

1-10 CIN 20 Eslason incomplete to

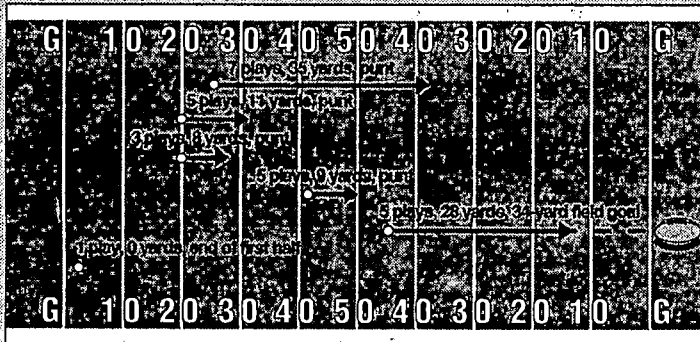
San Francisco first-half drives

49ers drives (top to bottom)



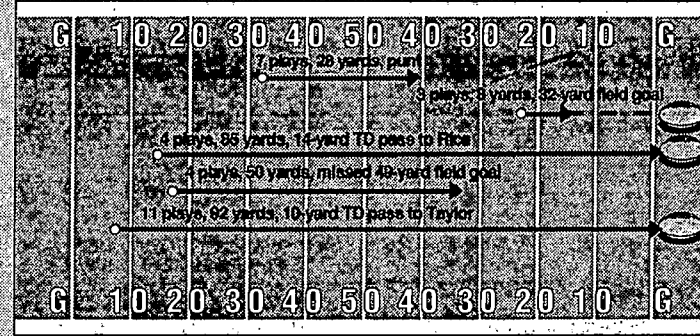
Cincinnati first-half drives

Bengals drives (top to bottom)



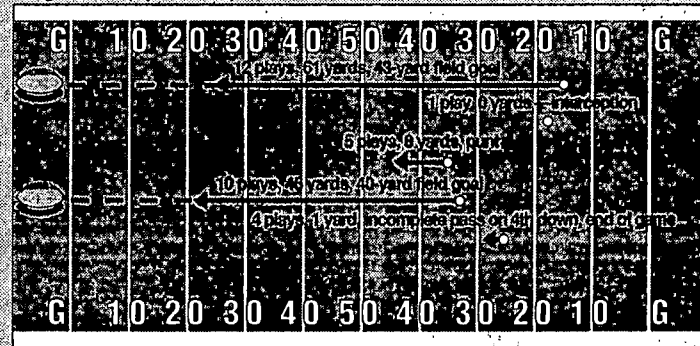
San Francisco second-half drives

49ers drives (top to bottom)



Cincinnati second-half drives

Bengals drives (top to bottom)



2-12 SF 24 Woods -1 run middle (Fagan).

3-13 SF 25 Eslason incomplete right, illegal motion penalty against Cin. declined.

4-13 SF 25 Breech 43 yard FG.
17 plays, 61 yards, 9:21 used

Cincinnati 6, San Francisco 3
5:39 remaining

Johnson Kick to Taylor at goal line, return to 18. Cincinnati penalized 15 yards for face mask.

SAN FRANCISCO BALL

1-10 SF 31 Montana incomplete to Rice.

1-10 SF 31 Montana 11 scramble right.

1-10 SF 42 Craig 4 run right (Zander).
2-4 SF 46 Montana 12 pass to Rice left (Woods).

1-10 CIN 42 Craig 4 run left (Grant).
2-4 CIN 38 Montana -3 sack by Williams.

3-4 CIN 41 Montana incomplete to Craig right, broken up by Bussey.

4-4 CIN 41 Helton 22 punt to Cincinnati, Hillary fumble recovered by Horton at Cincinnati 19.

2:29 remaining

CINCINNATI BALL

1-10 CIN 19 Eslason intercepted by Romanowski at Cincinnati 23.

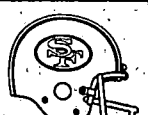
2:22 remaining

SAN FRANCISCO BALL

1-10 CIN 23 Montana incomplete to Rice right.

REPORT CARD

By Larry Weisman



OFFENSE (pass)



OFFENSE (rush)



A- QB Montana's brilliance on final drive almost defied belief. Calm and poised. Rice (11 catches/215 yards) broke it open in 2nd half with 8/157/1 TD.

B Not as dominant as needed, nor as consistent. Loss of LT Steve Wallace on third play hurt. Best gains came on draws against

C- Tried play-action without establishing run. Eslason looked best when he could fake to a back and read. Didn't look comfortable, little touch on short range.

B- Looked good in spots but strayed from run early. Cutback lanes were there for Woods but he didn't get the ball enough early

Super Bowl statistics

| | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|----|-------|
| Cincinnati | 0 | 3 | 10 | 3-16 |
| San Francisco | 3 | 0 | 3 | 14-20 |

FIRST QUARTER

San Francisco: FG Cofer 41, 11:46. Drive: 73 yards, 13 plays. Key plays: Montana 16 pass to Rathman on 3rd and 10; Montana 22 pass to Wilson ruled incomplete by replay official; San Francisco 3, Cincinnati 0.

SECOND QUARTER

Cincinnati: FG Breech 34, 13:45. Drive: 28 yards, 8 plays. Key play: Eslason 18 pass to McGee on 2nd and 7. San Francisco 3, Cincinnati 3.

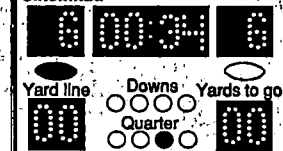
THIRD QUARTER

Cincinnati: FG Breech 43, 8:21. Drive: 61 yards, 13 plays. Key plays: Eslason 23 and 11 passes to Colquhoun; Woods 3 run on 3rd and 1. Cincinnati 6, San Francisco 3.
San Francisco: FG Cofer 32, 14:10. Drive: 8 yards, 4 plays. Key play: Eslason pass intercepted by Romanowski at Bengals 23; Montana 5 pass to Rice. Cincinnati 6, San Francisco 6.
Cincinnati: Jennings 83 kickoff return (Breech kick), 14:26. Cincinnati 13, San Francisco 6.

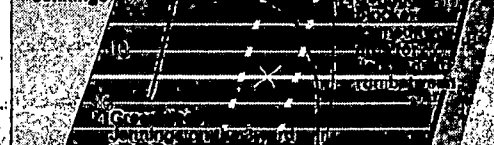
FOURTH QUARTER

Bengals' key play

Cincinnati San Francisco



Greer runs to 35, then reverses to chase Jennings.



12:59 remaining
CINCINNATI BALL
 1-10 CIN 20 Eslason incomplete to Brown right.
 2-10 CIN 20 Woods 1 run middle (Carter, Walter).
 3-9 CIN 21 Eslason 7 pass to Brown left (Lott).
 4-2 CIN 23 Johnson 63 punt to Taylor, kicked up at 5, run back to Cincinnati 48.
SAN FRANCISCO BALL
 1-10 CIN 48 Montana -10 lateral to Sydney right.
 2-20 SF 44 Montana 1 run (Grant).
 3-21 SF 43 Craig 11 run left, Fulcher forces fumble, Soow recovers.
 6:50 remaining.
CINCINNATI BALL
 1-10 CIN 41 Eslason 6 pass to Collinsworth right.
 2-4 CIN 47 Brooks 11 run middle (Fuller).
 1-10 SF 43 Eslason incomplete to McGee.
 2-10 SF 43 Eslason incomplete, throw out of bounds right.
 3-10 SF 43 Eslason -7 sack by Stubbs.
 4-17 SF 60 Johnson 40 punt to Taylor at 10, fair catch.
 Time remaining: 7:52
SAN FRANCISCO BALL
 1-10 SF 10 Craig 1 run (Fulcher).
 2-9 SF 11 Montana incomplete to Craig right.
 3-9 SF 11 Montana 9 pass to Craig left (Barker).
 1-10 SF 20 Craig 0 run right (Fulcher).
 2-10 SF 20 Flag: holding, Cross SF.
 2-20 SF 10 Craig -2 run (McClendon).
 3-23 SF 8 Montana 4 screen to Craig left.
 4-18 SF 12 Helton 37 punt to Horton at the 50, to the San Francisco 44.
 4:04 remaining.
CINCINNATI BALL
 1-10 SF 44 Woods 3 run middle (Stubbs).
 2-7 SF 41 Eslason 18 pass to McGee left (Lott).
 1-10 SF 23 Brooks 3 run left (Griffin).
 Two minutes warning.
 2-7 SF 20 Woods 4 run right (Haley).
 3-9 SF 16 Eslason incomplete in end zone to Brown.
 4-3 SF 16 Breach 34 yard field goal attempt good.
 5 plays, 28 yards, 2-45 used.
 San Francisco 3, Cincinnati 3
 1:19 remaining
 Johnson kick to Rodgers at SF 3, out to 25.
SAN FRANCISCO BALL
 1-10 SF 25 Craig 11 run left.
 1-10 SF 36 Montana incomplete to Craig left.
 2-11 SF 36 Montana -5 sack (Skow, Buck).
 Timeout Cincinnati
 3-14 SF 31 Rathman 11 run middle (Bussey).
 Timeout Cincinnati
 4-3 SF 42 Helton 56 punt to Cincinnati 2.
CINCINNATI BALL
 1-10 CIN 2 Eslason 0 down.
END OF FIRST HALF: SAN FRANCISCO 3, CINCINNATI 3

THIRD QUARTER
 Cofer kick to Jennings at goal line, return to Cincinnati 24.
 Flag: Cincinnati holding, -10 yards.
CINCINNATI BALL
 1-10 CIN 14 Woods 5 run middle (Fagan).
 2-5 CIN 19 Woods 6 run right (Fahnhorst).
 1-10 CIN 25 Flag: SF, Haley offside.
 1-5 CIN 30 Eslason 23 pass to Collinsworth middle (Griffin).
 1-10 SF 47 Woods -1 run middle (Fagan).
 2-11 SF 48 Flag: Reimera holding.
 2-21 CIN 42 Eslason 20 pass to Brooks left (Griffin).
 3-2 SF 38 Woods 3 run right (Haley).
 1-10 SF 35 Flag: false start, Cincinnati.
 1-15 SF 40 Eslason 0 sack by Fagan.
 2-15 SF 40 Brooks 7 run right (McKyer).
 3-9 SF 33 Eslason 11 pass to Collinsworth left (Griffin).
 1-10 SF 22 Woods 3 run left (Romanowski).
 2-7 SF 19 Flag: false start, Kozarski.

SAN FRANCISCO BALL
 1-10 CIN 23 Montana incomplete to Rice right.
 2-10 CIN 23 Craig 3 run left (Williams).
 3-7 CIN 20 Montana 5 pass to Rice middle (Billups).
 4-1 CIN 15 Cofer 32 yard field goal attempt good.
 4 plays, 8 yards, 1:32 used.
 Cincinnati 6, San Francisco 6
 6:50 remaining.
 Cofer kick to Jennings at Cincinnati 7, 89 yard touchdown return (Breach PAT good).
 Cincinnati 13, San Francisco 6
 0:34 remaining
 Johnson kick to Taylor at San Francisco 2, out to 15.
SAN FRANCISCO BALL
 1-10 SF 15 Montana 31 pass to Rice left.
END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER
 1-10 SF 46 Montana 40 pass to Craig right (Billups).
 1-10 CIN 14 Montana incomplete to Taylor in end zone, Billups almost intercepts.
 2-10 CIN 14 Montana 14 pass to Rice left, touchdown. (Cofer PAT good)
 4 plays, 85 yards, 1:31 used.
 Cincinnati 13, San Francisco 13
 14:03 remaining
 Cofer kick out of bounds, Cincinnati takes over at own 35.
CINCINNATI BALL
 1-10 CIN 35 Eslason 8 pass right to Brown (McKyer).
 2-2 CIN 43 Woods 4 run right (Roberts).
 1-10 CIN 47 Woods 2 run middle (Roberts).
 2-9 CIN 49 Eslason -6 sack by Haley.
 3-14 CIN 43 Eslason incomplete to Collinsworth left.
 4-14 CIN 43 Johnson 35 punt fair catch by Taylor, who fumbles. Pollard recovers for San Francisco at the 18.
SAN FRANCISCO BALL
 1-10 SF 18 Montana 44 pass to Rice right.
 1-10 CIN 38 Craig 7 run right (Buck).
 2-3 CIN 31 Craig 1 run left (Williams).
 3-4 CIN 32 Montana incomplete to Taylor.
 4-4 CIN 32 Cofer 49-yard field goal attempt is wide right.
 8:47 remaining.
CINCINNATI BALL
 1-10 CIN 32 Woods 0 run (Fagan).
 2-10 CIN 32 Eslason -3 sack by Carter.
 3-19 CIN 29 Eslason 17 pass to Hillary right.
 1-10 CIN 46 Brooks 1 run left (Carter).
 2-9 CIN 47 Woods 10 run left (Fagan).
 1-10 SF 43 Woods 7 run right (Haley).
 2-3 SF 36 Eslason 12 pass right to Brooks (McKyer).
 1-10 SF 24 Flag: false start, Cincinnati.
 1-15 SF 29 Woods 4 run middle (Lott).
 1-11 SF 25 Eslason incomplete to Brooks right.
 2-11 SF 25 Jennings 3 run middle (Holt).
 4-9 SF 22 Breach 40 yard field goal attempt good.
 11 plays, 48 yards, 5:27 used.
 Cincinnati 16, San Francisco 13
 3:20 remaining
 Johnson kick to Rodgers at goal line (out to 15).
 Flag: holding, San Francisco. Half distance to goal line.

SAN FRANCISCO BALL
 1-10 CIN 32 Woods 0 run (Fagan).
 2-10 CIN 32 Eslason -3 sack by Carter.
 3-19 CIN 29 Eslason 17 pass to Hillary right.
 1-10 CIN 46 Brooks 1 run left (Carter).
 2-9 CIN 47 Woods 10 run left (Fagan).
 1-10 SF 43 Woods 7 run right (Haley).
 2-3 SF 36 Eslason 12 pass right to Brooks (McKyer).
 1-10 SF 24 Flag: false start, Cincinnati.
 1-15 SF 29 Woods 4 run middle (Lott).
 1-11 SF 25 Eslason incomplete to Brooks right.
 2-11 SF 25 Jennings 3 run middle (Holt).
 4-9 SF 22 Breach 40 yard field goal attempt good.
 11 plays, 48 yards, 5:27 used.
 Cincinnati 16, San Francisco 13
 3:20 remaining
 Johnson kick to Rodgers at goal line (out to 15).
 Flag: holding, San Francisco. Half distance to goal line.

SAN FRANCISCO BALL
 1-10 SF 8 Montana 8 pass middle to Craig (Zander).
 2-2 SF 16 Montana 7 pass to Frank-1-10 SF 23 Montana 7 pass to Rice right.
 2-3 SF 30 Craig 1 run middle (Barker).
 Two-minute warning.
 2-2 SF 31 Craig 4 run middle (McClendon).
 San Francisco timeout
 1-10 SF 35 Montana 17 pass to Rice left.
 1-10 CIN 48 Montana 13 pass to Craig right (Barker).
 1-10 CIN 35 Montana incomplete left to Rice.
 2-10 CIN 35 Montana pass to Craig over middle nullified by flag, ineligible receiver (Sapok) down field.

Loss of LT Steve Wallace on third play hurt. Best gains came on draws against nickel defense.

A- Handled: the hurry-up offense went, sticking with a basic 4-3 to get pressure, or going to a set with four linemen and seven DBs. They blitzed from 4-7.

B Safeties Lott and Fuller supported well but inside linebackers left large lanes for cutback-minded Bengals. But S.F. never let Bengals get rolling on ground.

C Poor snap and hold caused missed 19-yard FG. Cofer's 2 FGs had plenty of leg but missed from 49 with game tied. Punting was erratic.

C Taylor turned a nearly muffed punt into a record 45-yard return. But he fumbled one. Kickoff return team a penalty-ridden mess, allowed Jennings' TD return.

B Walsh's offense bogged down badly late in first half, partly because of poor field position. Montana passing, Rice catches difference in end.

2-20 CIN 45 Montana 27 pass to Rice over middle.
 1-10 CIN 18 Montana 8 pass to Craig middle.
 San Francisco timeout
 2-2 CIN 10 Montana 10 pass to Taylor in end zone for touchdown. (Cofer PAT good)
 11 plays, 82 yards, 2:48 used
SAN FRANCISCO 20, CINCINNATI 16
 0:34 remaining
 Cofer kick to Brooks at Cincinnati 11, out to 28.
CINCINNATI BALL
 1-10 CIN 26 Eslason 5 pass to McGee right.
 2-5 CIN 31 Eslason -4 sack by Haley.
 Timeout Cincinnati
 3-9 CIN 27 Eslason incomplete to Collinsworth left.
 4-9 CIN 27 Eslason incomplete to Collinsworth left.
END OF GAME
SAN FRANCISCO 20, CINCINNATI 16

ly. Outback lanes were there for Woods but he didn't get the ball enough early. Brooks not a factor.

D CB Billups had nightmare sequence with Rice, ending in TD. Dink passes underneath defeated zones. When pass rush faded, S.F. rolled.

B Blitzing hard on run downs, contained Craig and Rathman. Play gains luster since nose tackle Krumrie went out early with a broken leg.

A Breach's 3 FGs were all offense could muster. Johnson set a Super Bowl record with a 63-yard punt, but it was followed by a record return.

A Jennings scored TD with 83-yard kickoff return after 49ers had tied game at 6-6. Overran coverage on Taylor's long punt return, covered kickoffs well.

B Curious. Mix of no-huddle and regular sets fine; play-calling mystifying. Didn't stick to run. QB level of execution not great. Pass defense, anyone?

pass to Rice. Cincinnati 6, San Francisco 6.
 Cincinnati 93 kickoff return (Breach kick), 14:28. Cincinnati 13, San Francisco 6.

FOURTH QUARTER
 San Francisco: Rice 17 pass from Montana (Cofer kick), 5:57. Drive: 85 yards, 4 plays. Key play: Montana 40 pass to Craig. Cincinnati 13, San Francisco 13.
 Cincinnati: FG Breach 40, 11:40. Drive: 49 yards, 11 plays. Key plays: Eslason 17 pass to Hillary on 3rd and 12; Woods 9 run; Eslason 13 pass to Brooks. Cincinnati 16, San Francisco 13.
 San Francisco: Taylor 10 pass from Montana (Cofer kick), 14:28. Drive: 92 yards, 11 plays. Key plays: Craig 4 run on 3rd and 5; Montana 27 pass to Rice on 2nd and 20. San Francisco 20, Cincinnati 16.

TEAM STATISTICS

| | CIN | S.F. |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|
| First downs | 13 | 23 |
| Rushing | 7 | 16 |
| Passing | 6 | 8 |
| Penalty | 0 | 1 |
| Average gain-1st down | 4.1 | 6.5 |
| 1st down passes | 10 | 19 |
| 1st down pass avg. gain | 2.9 | 11.8 |
| 1st down rush | 14 | 12 |
| 1st down rush avg. gain | 2.9 | 3.3 |
| 3rd-down efficiency | 4-13 | 4-13 |
| 4th-down efficiency | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Total plays | 64 | 67 |
| Total net yards | 229 | 454 |
| Average gain | 3.8 | 6.8 |
| Rushes-yards | 28-106 | 29-111 |
| Passing yards | 141 | 348 |
| Passing plays | 123 | 343 |
| Completed-attempted | 11-25 | 23-38 |
| Net gain per pass | 3.4 | 6.8 |
| Had intercept. | 0 | 1 |
| Sacked-yards lost | 5-21 | 3-14 |
| Return yardage | 137 | 133 |
| Punts-retards | 2-5 | 3-56 |
| Kickoffs-returns | 3-12 | 5-52 |
| Interceptions | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Fumbles-lost | 1-0 | 4-1 |
| Penalties-yards | 7-65 | 4-32 |
| Passes average | 5-44 | 4-37 |
| Touchdowns | 1 | 2 |
| Rushing | 0 | 2 |
| Passing | 0 | 2 |
| Returns | 1 | 0 |
| Field goals | 3-3 | 2-4 |
| Time of possession | 32:43 | 27:17 |

FIRST QUARTER

| CIN | S.F. |
|-------|--------|
| 9 | 7 |
| 29 | 33 |
| 17 | 64 |
| 1-5-0 | 5-10-0 |
| 1-3 | 2-4 |
| 7:06 | 7:54 |

SECOND QUARTER

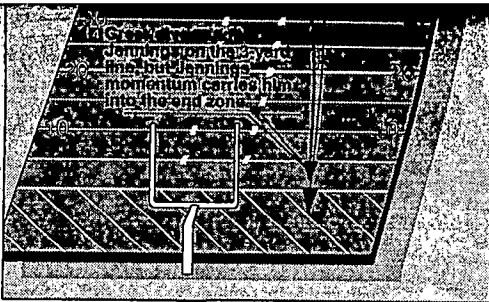
| CIN | S.F. |
|------|-------|
| 2 | 4 |
| 24 | 45 |
| 20 | 39 |
| 0-0 | 3-6-0 |
| 2-3 | 1-5 |
| 6:54 | 8:06 |

THIRD QUARTER

| CIN | S.F. |
|-------|-------|
| 4 | 3 |
| 22 | 22 |
| 24 | 43 |
| 3-4-1 | 3-6-0 |
| 2-3 | 0-2 |
| 8:44 | 9:16 |

FOURTH QUARTER

| CIN | S.F. |
|-----|------|
| 9 | 9 |
| 31 | 11 |



INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

BENGALS RUSHING

| Player | No. | Yds | Avg | Lg | TD |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| Woods | 20 | 79 | 4.0 | 10 | 0 |
| Eslason | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brooks | 6 | 24 | 4.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Jennings | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |

49ERS RUSHING

| Player | No. | Yds | Avg | Lg | TD |
|--------|-----|-----|------|----|----|
| Craig | 17 | 74 | 4.4 | 18 | 0 |
| Rice | 5 | 5 | 1.0 | 5 | 0 |
| Hilary | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |

BENGALS RECEIVING

| Player | No. | Yds | Avg | Lg | TD |
|--------|-----|-----|------|----|----|
| Rice | 11 | 215 | 19.5 | 40 | 0 |
| Craig | 2 | 15 | 7.5 | 8 | 0 |
| Hilary | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 16 | 0 |
| Taylor | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | 10 | 1 |

49ERS RECEIVING

| Player | No. | Yds | Avg | Lg | TD |
|--------------|-----|-----|------|----|----|
| Brooks | 1 | 20 | 20.0 | 20 | 0 |
| Collinsworth | 3 | 40 | 13.3 | 23 | 0 |
| McGee | 2 | 23 | 11.5 | 16 | 0 |
| Hilary | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |

BENGALS DEFENSIVE STATS

| Player | T | A | Sacks | Pass Def. | Fmrc. |
|-----------|---|---|-------|-----------|-------|
| Williams | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wilcox | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fulcher | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Billups | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bussey | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Zander | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Horton | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grant | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brock | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Thomas | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Barker | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| McClendon | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dixon | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| L.White | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Snow | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brady | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| D.Smith | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Parker | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Holtman | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

49ERS DEFENSIVE STATS

| Player | T | A | Sacks | Pass Def. | Fmrc. |
|------------|---|---|-------|-----------|-------|
| Haley | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| McKyer | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fagan | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Lott | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fulfer | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Griffin | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Carter | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Roberts | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fahnhorst | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stubbs | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Romanowski | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cofer | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Holt | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pollard | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cox | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Holmes | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

BENGALS KICKOFF RETURNS

| Player | No. | Yds | Avg | Lg | TD |
|----------|-----|-----|------|----|----|
| Brooks | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 15 | 0 |
| Jennings | 2 | 117 | 58.5 | 80 | 1 |

49ERS KICKOFF RETURNS

| Player | No. | Yds | Avg | Lg | TD |
|---------|-----|-----|------|----|----|
| Sydney | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Taylor | 1 | 13 | 13.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Roberts | 3 | 53 | 17.7 | 22 | 0 |

BENGALS FIELD GOALS

| Player | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | Tot. |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Breach | 0-0 | 1-1 | 2-2 | 3-3 |

49ERS FIELD GOALS

| Player | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | Tot. |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Cofer | 0-1 | 1-1 | 1-2 | 2-4 |

BENGALS DEFENSIVE STATS

| Player | T | A | Sacks | Pass Def. | Fmrc. |
|-----------|---|---|-------|-----------|-------|
| Williams | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wilcox | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fulcher | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Billups | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bussey | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Zander | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Horton | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grant | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brock | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Thomas | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Barker | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| McClendon | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dixon | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| L.White | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Snow | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brady | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| D.Smith | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Parker | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Holtman | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

49ERS DEFENSIVE STATS

| Player | T | A | Sacks | Pass Def. | Fmrc. |
|--------|---|---|-------|-----------|-------|
| Haley | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| McKyer | 6 | | | | |

the air, slapping high fives and wagging fingers at the TV screen.

At Perry's, a Union Street bar, host Rob Hunter said the atmosphere was "insane" all day.

"They've been going crazy," said Hunter. "You can't walk on the street, you can't get in the door. That's what's going on."

Fireworks rocketed over San Francisco's Mission District.

"We expect the unusual right now," said officer Stephanie Thorne at the Mission District police station. "Cars driving by with their boom boxes, honking their horns. They're going pretty good out there."

"It's absolute pandemonium," said Don Figone, owner of Lefty O'Douls,

"The reasoning was," said general manager Bob Driscoll, "that they're the ones who beat us. They were pretty excited about the 49ers winning."

also on Geary. "Everyone's acting like they just got released from prison today. It's wall-to-wall bodies."

In Oakland, excitement was just as high.

"We have the team of the '80s in the Bay Area," said Andy Mousalimas, owner of the King's X. "We're hard-nosed people; we play tough football."

"It's a jam-packed house. The fact that the Raiders have been gone 13 years, it's nice to see the Oakland people adopt the 49ers as the No. 1 team."

Cincinnati

Fans look to 1990 as final seconds elapse

For the most part, fans filed out of sports bars around Cincinnati disappointed, but not depressed by the Bengals' last-minute loss to San Francisco.

One exception was at Tickets in Covington, Ky., where owner Josh Deeters had to call the police to stop a fight between Cincinnati and San Francisco fans.

"It was a friendly little scuffle," said Deeters, who opened his bar a month ago. "The game was so close that everybody got caught up in it."

Deeters downplayed the altercation, saying, "I'm sure this wasn't the only fight in town today." He said most of his customers left "with long faces," and that seemed to be the reaction at other restaurants.

"Oh God, it's like I've just been held up," said Willie DeLuca, owner/manager of Sorrento's Pizza and Restaurant in Norwood, Ohio. "Everybody left

when Jerry Rice caught that touchdown pass.

"They couldn't believe they were 32 seconds away from a Super Bowl championship. I don't think the loss sunk in quickly."

Joce Nesbitt, a bartender at Flanagan's Landing near Riverfront Stadium in Cincinnati, said the bar "wasn't packed" with fans, adding, "Nobody said much. They just left. ... At least there's always next year."

Tom Gregory, oldest son of the owner of Montgomery Inn in Montgomery, Ohio, was "very upbeat" despite the loss.

"It was a great game and we had carryout orders galore," said Gregory, who estimates he served 400 orders, including 2,000 pounds of barbecued ribs, the Inn's specialty.

"They'll be back next year," said Gregory. "Plus, we've got the Reds starting spring training in a few weeks."

craft worker from Sacramento, found a chair near Gate H to view the game on his Watchman and listen to radio broadcast over loudspeakers outside the stadium.

"I could have gotten a ticket, but I didn't want to pay \$400," he said. "I followed them everywhere. I might as well be here."

Early fan lunacy honors go to Bob Kuhn, 27, a Cincinnati firefighter who drove down from Ohio with his dad Wednesday. Sunday morning at 8, his van was in line at the Joe Robbie Stadium gates. By

Fans turn up the heat as game goes on

After the game, Mark Aprigliano of Sports Rock Cafe said, "It was like when the Miami Heat won their first game, people were cheering, screaming, slapping beer bottles on the table, throwing silverware."

"It was crazy especially in the fourth quarter when they traded touchdowns. At the end, they went berserk."

The scene wasn't as lively everywhere: Keith Brown, cook at Tom's NFL Club, said, "They've been celebrating all day. A couple of people partied too much, so they had to leave."

A look at some of the parties preceding the game:

As always, Joe's Stone Crab was the place to eat and be seen. Joe Montana Sr. and retired coach Dan Devine held court at one table Friday. Lamar Hunt played host at another. Devine came over to chat with Hunt and his group.

At another table, the Raiders' Mike Haynes was eating lunch. The 49ers' Danny Stubbins, a local hero from his years with the Miami Hurricanes, had stopped by for crabs. So did national anthem singer Billy Joel, with wife Christie Brinkley, and former Dolphins Bob Griese, Nat Moore, Dick Anderson and Paul Warfield.

Joe Greene and Franco

place to be."

Bill Crawford, 73, probably won the silliest fan competition, senior division. The retired Cincinnati firefighter had his orange and black Bengals wig, his Super Bowl T-shirt and a pair of Bengals boxer drawers pulled over his slacks.

"There's no fool like an old fool," said Crawford.

Sandy and Sidney Vanzandt, cruising the Florida Keys in their 39-foot sail boat, motored their dinghy ashore



VICTORY RIDE: 49ers owner Ed DeBartolo Jr. is hoisted in the locker room by defensive end Larry Roberts.

Harris joined the *Sports Illustrated* party, which started with cocktails at the posh, new Coral Gables Hyatt resort.

Greene, at Commissioner Pete Rozelle's Friday night bash at the Miami Beach Convention Center, told Harris, ex-Eagle Bill Bergey and NFL official Mel Blount that he liked the Bengals. Greene cited the Bengals' offensive line and said he wasn't that impressed with the 49ers' Roger Craig.

Checking out the Miami scene with O.J. Simpson was Marcus Allen. They took in Rozelle's party together. Earlier in the week, they dropped in on the South Beach's hot new club, the Scratch.



BENGALS' BACKER: Cincinnati firefighter Bob Kuhn, who says being at the game was a 'chance of a lifetime,' parties on the roof of a van before kickoff.

in Key Largo to catch the game on color TV at Kent and Barbara Bleakley's house.

"If they hadn't invited us we would have watched on our five-inch, black-and-white TV," said Sandy Vanzandt. "Last year, we watched the Super Bowl in a bar in Antigua,

the year before in a creek near St. Augustine."

No one was rooting harder for Cincinnati than Bill Card, who has been hauling around an unopened six-pack of "Hud-dey Bengal Beer" since 1982. That's the last time the Ben-

gals were in the Super Bowl and the last time the Midwest went nuts with "Hud-dey" souvenirs.

Card figures somebody out there can't live without this mint-condition collector's beer. Even at the asking price of \$5,000.

Hospitality tents house grand times for revelers

Outside Joe Robbie Stadium Sunday was a village of 25 hospitality tents, providing comfortable surroundings for executives and prime customers of some of the USA's top corporations. NFL Properties also had a huge three-tent hospitality area and a separate, more secluded NFL tent.

Highlights:

► At the Nissan tent, a band entertained Nissan staffers and guests of Nissan dealers. Hank Stram gave a "chalk talk" Sunday. Dave Butz of the Washington Redskins was a special guest for the weekend.

► Chrysler/Plymouth guests got a visit from the Miami Dolphins cheerleaders.

► Miller Beer/Philip Morris guests were not all happy campers. Some had to wait for an hour to obtain credentials.

► Seagrams guests got a chalk talk from former San Diego quarterback Dan Fouts.

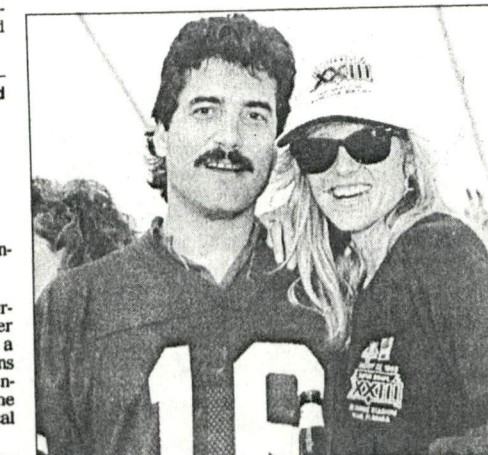
► Guests in the Ford Motor Co. tent were entertained by a band playing '50s music.

► Sen. Ted Kennedy joined members of the Joe Robbie family at the Miami Dolphins tent.

► At the Dallas Fan Fares tent, University of Miami head coach Jimmy Johnson looked forward to watching a game between teams that he isn't coaching or scouting. Asked which is a bigger deal, the Super Bowl or a college bowl game for the national championship, Johnson answered the Super Bowl because it has national interest and has "more people involved."

► The NFL Properties party was held in a three-tent compound, each with a live band, one featuring The Four Tops. Between the tents was a miniature football field, plus two "swamps" specially stocked with live baby alligators.

Among the guests: ABC-TV's Lynn Swann; former Texas A&M coach Jackie Sherrill; the New York Mets' Keith Hernandez; and friend Shari Montgomery; Jack Donlon, Jim Conway and Sargeant Karch of the NFL management council; yachtsman Dennis Conner, who talked sailing; NFL Players Association head Gene Upshaw; Buck Briggs of the NFLPA; and Los Angeles Rams coach John Robinson.



► Super Bowl stories on Bud Bowl and 3-D glasses, 4B

Elsewhere

Big bettor \$1M richer as Cincinnati beats the spread

LAS VEGAS: If you thought your office pool was high, think again. Casino owner Bob Stupak was so confident that the Bengals would beat the seven-point spread, he bet \$1 million-plus.

Stupak — owner of Vegas World — placed the bet at Little Caesars Gambling Casino on the Las Vegas Strip several

will be paid Monday."

SEOUL: U.S. soldiers gathered around television sets at bases throughout Korea Monday (Seoul time) to watch the USA's biggest single sporting event of the year.

"I'm rooting for Cincinnati," said Specialist Robert Holloway, 23, of Cleveland,

first quarter at Mitchell & O'Brien's, a "New York-style" deli in London's trendy SoHo area.

"It's more fun to watch a Super Bowl in an American setting," said Cone. "Nobody should watch this game in a pub."

Cone recalls when the Super Bowl was a curiosity here:

ties, watched the telecast live at the Chicago Meat Packers.

Bruce Macumber, a Californian who lives in Paris, was rooting for San Francisco all the way. "The Super Bowl is one event that I don't want to give up," Macumber said.

Joe Hansen of Detroit said, "I'm here just to watch a football game. I enjoy any chance

and the Super Bowl on a Monday morning," she said.

NEW ORLEANS: New Orleans doesn't get the Super Bowl until next year, but a crowd of several hundred fans was having little problem enjoying the Sunday night game on TV in Pat O'Brien's, a local watering hole.

49ERS LINE

Craig's optimism must be contagious

By Denise Tom
USA TODAY

Taylor second option on winning TD play

The pass play that gave the 49ers winning touchdown was called "20 halfback curl, X up."
The play is designed with halfback Roger Craig as the primary receiver, but John Taylor caught the 2-yard pass.
Said Taylor: "Basically, all I was to do was just nod out and go straight up the field and, fortunately, it worked for us."
What did he do after that?
"My mind was blank. I just looked up and said, 'Hey, we got one.' ... This is probably the biggest thing that ever happened in my life."

LAST GAME: San Francisco veteran center Randy Cross came close to being the ugly duckling while making his NFL swan song Sunday. "I made some mistakes today," Cross said after the 49ers' 20-16 Super Bowl victory against Cincinnati. "But I went from goat to glory, so I'll be nothing but a little footnote to this game." Cross, who previously announced he would retire after the Super Bowl, his third, made a bad snap on a missed field goal attempt and was also called for two 10-yard penalties.

NFL Draft Order

Order of selection for the first round of the 1989 NFL draft reallocated by the league, to be held April 23-24 in New York:

- 1, Dallas
- 2, Green Bay
- 3, Detroit
- 4, Kansas City
- 5, Atlanta
- 6, Tampa Bay
- 7, Pittsburgh
- 8, San Diego
- 9, Miami
- 10, Phoenix
- 11, Chicago (from L.A. Raiders)
- 12, Chicago (from Washington)
- 13, Denver
- 14, New York Jets
- 15, Seattle (from Indianapolis)
- 16, New England
- 17, Phoenix (from Seattle)
- 18, New York Giants
- 19, New Orleans
- 20, Indianapolis (from Phila.)
- 21, Cleveland
- 22, Los Angeles Rams
- 23, Houston
- 24, Minnesota
- 25, Chicago
- 26, L.A. Rams (from Buffalo)
- 27, Cincinnati
- 28, San Francisco

LOW SCORE: The only scoring in the first quarter was Mike Cofer's 41-yard field goal for San Francisco, marking the first time since Super Bowl XI — a 32-14 Oakland victory against Minnesota in 1977 — that neither team scored a touchdown in the first quarter. The 3-3 score was the first halftime tie in Super Bowl history.

TWO ON ONE: Two Super Bowl records were produced on one play in the second quarter Sunday. On fourth-and-two from the Cincinnati 28, Lee Johnson's 63-yard punt bounced past San Francisco returner John Taylor, who chased the ball down at the 9 and then ran 45 yards to the Bengals' 46. The punt surpassed the record for longest punt of 62 yards set by Rich Camarillo of New Eng-

land in 1966. Taylor's return surpassed the 34-yard return of Darrell Green of Washington in the 1984 Super Bowl.

WALSH RATES HIS QBs: Of all the quarterbacks Bill Walsh has coached, Greg Cook was the most talented. "The greatest talent I've ever seen at the quarterback position was Greg Cook," said the 49ers coach. "He was absolutely a brilliant quarterback. He was spontaneous, with a quick release, just a great quarterback."

Cook, a No. 1 draft pick for the Bengals in 1969, played six seasons but was constantly bothered by arm problems.

"Dan Fouts had strong character, the toughest quarterback I've ever seen. He had a great arm, but was just a fair

MIAMI — Roger Craig's motto might as well be, "Don't doubt, be happy."

"We've been doing this all season," said the 49ers running back said of his team's 20-16 comeback Super Bowl victory. "We have our backs against the wall and we march down field when we have to," said Craig, who rushed for 74 yards and caught eight passes for 101 yards. "We have the talent and the confidence in ourselves."

Going into the game, the 49ers were 4-2 when Craig had 150 yards or more from scrimmage. Sunday, he had 175.

Although he didn't score a touchdown, he figured in the final one, wide receiver John Taylor's only catch of the day. "We knew they were going to double-cover me and Jerry Rice so that left John Taylor open in the middle," Craig said.

The play is called a "20 halfback curl" and is designed for Craig to run toward the sideline to split the safeties and then cut back to the inside. Meanwhile, Taylor runs a little sideline then cuts back inside and is wide open for the catch.

"We never got down on ourselves, even in the last drive," Craig said. "Joe (Montana) was on target. The offensive line



By Robert Deutsch, USA TODAY

RUNNING THROUGH CINCINNATI: 49ers halfback Roger Craig shows some fancy footwork as he tries to negotiate his way

kept the protection up."

A second-quarter 49ers drive was killed when Craig fumbled, but the Bengals couldn't capitalize.

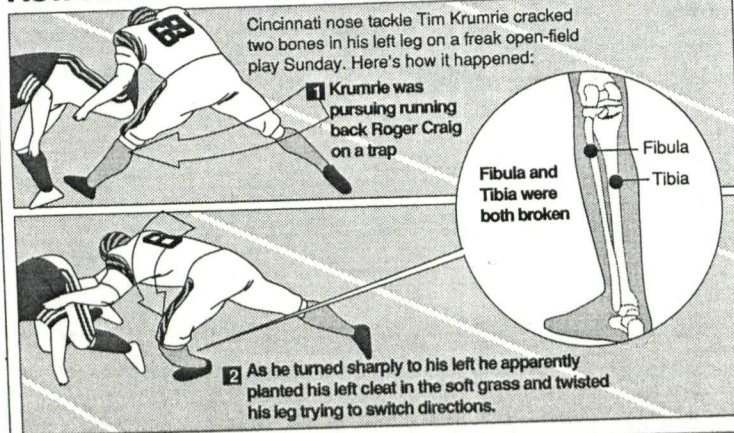
"The team with the fewest mistakes was going to win," Craig said. "I had to make up for my fumble today. I really didn't like that too well. I just tried to stay positive through-

out the whole game and things worked out well for me."

When Cincinnati nose tackle Tim Krumrie went down midway in the first quarter with two broken bones in his left leg, that put the Bengals defense at a big disadvantage.

But, said Craig, "We felt bad for him. We don't like to see anyone get hurt."

How Krumrie broke his leg



Source: USA TODAY research

By Jeff Dionise and Julie Stacey, USA TODAY

through the Bengals defense, with safety David Fulcher (33) and nose tackle David Grant (98) the closest pursuers.

Even though he didn't score, Craig said he never enjoyed a game more. "I like it when our backs are to the wall and the pressure is on," he said. "It brings out the best in you."
He wasn't worried about the last drive, in which the 49ers moved 92 yards in 11 plays. The chances that were taken were reasonable ones.

"We felt we could go up and down the field any time," Craig said. "But in a big game like that, you tend to be more conservative."

Craig said the 49ers indeed are the team of the '80s. "Definitely," he said. "We've won three world titles and been in the playoffs six years in a row."

Losing didn't cross the mind of Cross during final drive

By Denise Tom
USA TODAY

MIAMI — Randy Cross couldn't have asked for a better retirement party.

"I can't tell you what it means," said the 49ers center, whose last game in a 13-year career was one to truly remember.

"I appreciate what the 46 guys have done for me. Going out literally on top, No. 1 and getting to go on with my life like this is great. This is a memory I will never forget."

It was fitting that the 34-year-old Cross injected the offense with some hasty words of encouragement at the start of the last drive.

was close was also the last time San Francisco and Cincinnati met, in 1982.

"You know, finally after 23 years, the Super Bowl is finally super," said Cross. "This is a game you can look back on and say, 'That was a great game.'"

Individually, Cross didn't have a perfect game. A bad snap on a second-quarter field goal attempt caused Mike Cofer to miss a 19-yarder that would have put the 49ers up 6-0. Cross also had a holding penalty.

"I made some mistakes," he said. "I went from goat to glory, though, so I will be no more than a little footnote in the game."

Montana's biggest supporter

Krumrie loss deflates Bengals

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 1989

total of 1,551,235. The 1968-69 Milwaukee Bucks, Cleveland Cavaliers and Phoenix Suns, the 1970-71 Portland Trail Blazers, Cleveland Cavaliers and Buffalo Braves, the 1974-75 New Orleans Jazz and 1980-81 Dallas Mavericks drew a combined 1,489,000.



By Barbara Kinney
PAT CASH: Plays Stefan Edberg in fourth round.

HE HOPES WILL BE A BIG SEASON ON HOME COURTS. **PAGE 12C.**

TUESDAY

TEAM-BY-TEAM NBA SEASON STATISTICS.

SPORTSLINE

A QUICK READ ON THE TOP SPORTS NEWS OF THE DAY

BASKETBALL NBA Coverage, 14C

Boston 112, Detroit 99 New York 120, Portland 116

COLLEGE Coverage, 1, 13C

Illinois 103, Ga. Tech 92 (20T) Seton Hall 108, N.H. College 67
Louisville 92, UNLV 74 Penn State 96, Rhode Island 80

HOCKEY NHL Coverage, 14C

Detroit 4, Washington 3 Buffalo 6, Boston 4

1-900-850-1414...

... USA TODAY SPORTS HOT LINE. Follow college basketball with in-progress updates. Scoreboard reports, including NBA and NHL action, begin at 7:35 p.m. EST. Call for Australian Open results all week. Call every day, 24 hours a day. You pay 60 cents for the first minute and 45 cents for each additional minute.



BECKER BEATEN: No. 14 Jonas Svensson of Sweden upset No. 3 Boris Becker of West Germany 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-3 in a fourth-round match today (Sunday night EST) in the Australian Open tennis tournament at Melbourne. "Today it was a little like he lost the match, he made so many errors," Svensson said. Also, No. 2 Martina Navratilova eliminated No. 15 Hana Mandlikova of Australia 6-4, 6-1 to advance to the quarterfinals. Today's top men's matches: No. 7 John McEnroe vs No. 10 Aaron Krickstein and No. 2 Ivan Lendl vs. No. 10 Amos Mansdorf of Israel. (Australian Open notes, 12C)

OVER THE TOP: USA Olympic champion Louise Ritter won the women's high jump Sunday at the Sherbrooke (Quebec) International Track and Field Meet. She cleared 6 feet, 2 3/4 inches, edging compatriot Yolanda Henry, who also cleared 6-2 3/4 but failed on one attempt.

MILLER TRADED: The NHL Boston Bruins traded left wing Jay Miller, who holds the team season penalty minutes record, to the Los Angeles Kings for future considerations. Miller, 28, was signed in 1985.

FURILLO FUNERAL: Services will be Wednesday at Temple, Pa., for Carl Furillo, right fielder for the great Brooklyn Dodgers teams of the 1950s. Furillo, 66, died Saturday of natural causes. He won the National League batting title in 1953 with a .344 average.

THEN THERE WERE NINE: The Denver Nuggets begin a three-game road trip tonight at Indiana with only nine players after rookie Jerome Lane sprained his ankle during practice Sunday. Calvin Natt and Bill Hanzlik are injured and Eddie Hughes was waived Sunday after finishing his second 10-day contract.

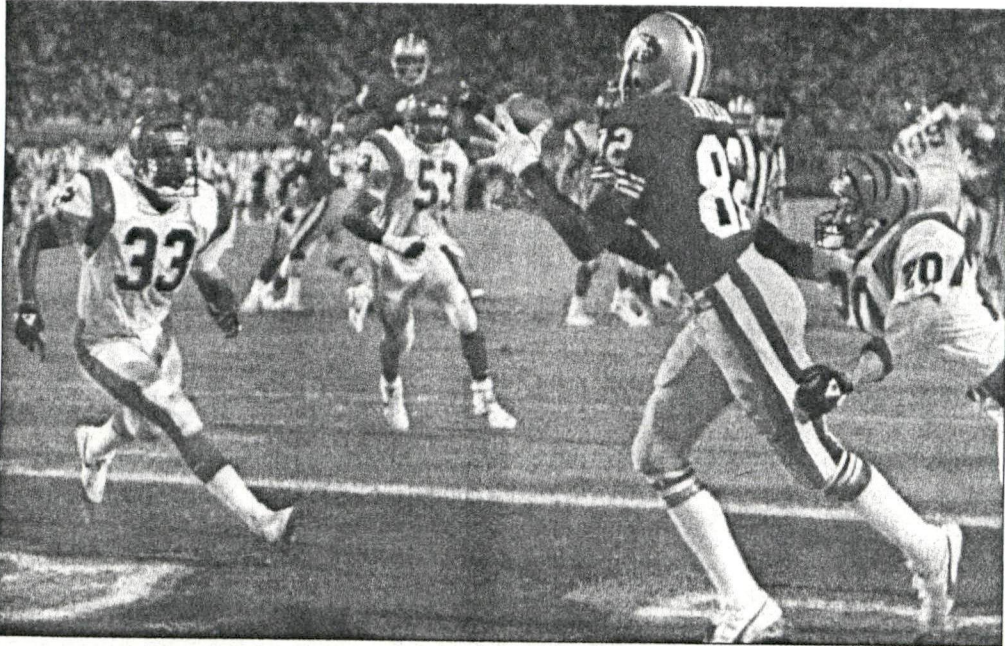
LAWYER CONTACTED: Boycotting San Jose State basketball players contacted lawyer Melvin Belli to help if the university tries to revoke their athletic scholarships. Ten of 14 players quit Thursday demanding the resignation or firing of coach Bill Berry. They complained of verbal abuse and mental cruelty. (Colleges, 13C)

RANGERS SALE: A formal recommendation is expected on Edward L. Gaylord's bid to take majority control of the Texas Rangers from owner Eddie Chiles when baseball's ownership committee meets Tuesday in Chicago. A group of investors that includes George W. Bush, eldest son of President George Bush...

49ERS: A TEAM FOR THE '80s

- ▶ Game made columnist Doug Williams look good, **6C**
- ▶ In-depth look at how the game was won and lost, **11C**
- ▶ Super Bowl ad meter — what you liked, **MONEY, 4B**
- ▶ **COMPLETE COVERAGE, 2-12C**

49ers win truly super game



By Shawn Spence, USA TODAY
STRIKING PAYDIRT: John Taylor gets behind Cincinnati defenders Ray Horton (20) and David Fulcher (33) to make the winning catch.

Bengals fall 20-16 on late TD

By Larry Weisman
USA TODAY

MIAMI — This year's Super Bowl didn't have a loser. Sure, the San Francisco 49ers defeated Cincinnati 20-16 for their third Super Bowl title of the decade.

Yes, the 49ers won after a 92-yard drive in the waning minutes, scoring with 34 seconds left on Joe Montana's 10-yard pass to John Taylor.

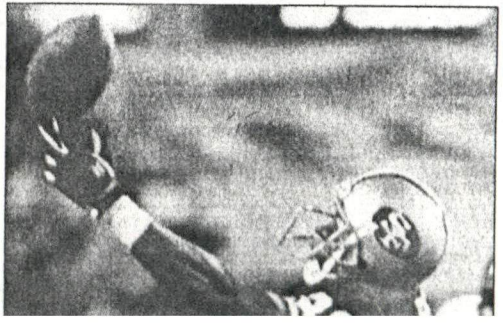
And, of course, the big diamond-studded rings go to the 49ers. But there were no losers in perhaps the most exciting of any Super Bowl championship.

"If you bought a ticket to this one, maybe you walked away thinking it was worth the \$100 or the \$1,000 you paid for it," said Bengals coach Sam Wyche, whose dogged underdogs struggled to a 16-13 lead with 3:20 left before succumbing to Montana's brilliance.

The game had special-teams explosions—a 93-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by Cincinnati's Stanford Jennings, 49ers receiver Jerry Rice's special magic (11 catches for a record 215 yards and the MVP award), and Montana's crafty quarterbacking.

"We never gave up," Montana said after throwing for a record 357 yards. "We just came back and drove the ball right down the field."

Forced to fight for his job this season and sometimes at odds with coach Bill Walsh



COVER STORY

Montana: Headed for NFL legends



By Gordon Forbes
USA TODAY

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JOB OPENING: Miami Dolphins assistant Chuck Studley has quit after five years with the NFL team as its record and defense sagged, the *Miami Herald* reports. Studley ran the defense in his first three seasons, but was demoted to linebackers coach the last two seasons.

RIDE 'EM COWBOY: Bull rider Scott Kestl of Lemhi, Idaho, was the big winner with \$9,159.90 from the purse of \$368,355 in the National Western Stock Show Rodeo Sunday at Denver. (Results, 15C)

Compiled by Valerie Lynn Dorsey

Inside SPORTS

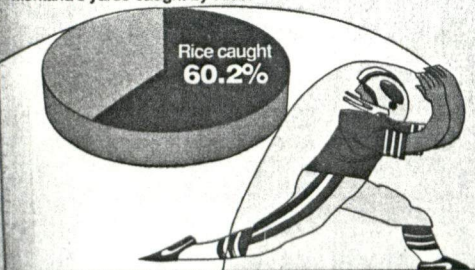
| GENERAL | | FOOTBALL | |
|-----------------|-----|------------|----------------|
| Sportstalk | 2C | Super Bowl | 2-4, 6, 11-12C |
| Hockey | 14C | BASKETBALL | |
| State by state | 14C | Colleges | 13C |
| Lottery numbers | 15C | NBA | 14C |

USA SNAPSHOTS

A look at statistics that shape the sports world

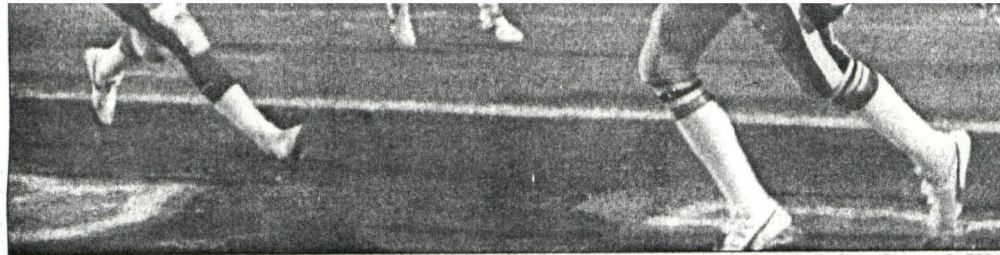
Montana-Rice connection

Joe Montana and Jerry Rice set Super Bowl records for passing (357) and receiving yards (215). Percentage of Montana's yards caught by Rice:



Source: USA TODAY research

By Sam Ward, USA TODAY

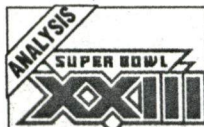


By Shawn Spence, USA TODAY

STRIKING PAYDIRT: John Taylor gets behind Cincinnati defenders Ray Horton (20) and David Fulcher (33) to make the winning catch.

COVER STORY

Montana: Headed for NFL legends



GORDON FORBES is USA TODAY's pro football editor. This is the 22nd Super Bowl he has covered.

By Gordon Forbes
USA TODAY

MIAMI — The great ones always find a way.

San Francisco quarterback Joe Montana, one of the great ones, found a way in one of the more dramatic endings to a Super Bowl that started out as a slugging match only a defensive purist could appreciate.

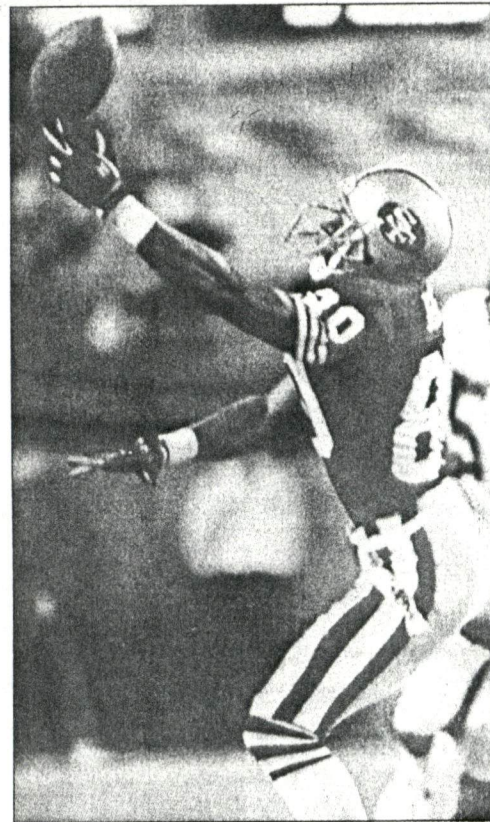
Montana led the weary 49ers offense onto the field with 3:10 left, the ball at their 8 and the Cincinnati Bengals

leading 16-13. Not only that, Montana's key receivers, Jerry Rice, John Taylor and running back Roger Craig, had to run their routes on an exceptionally soft surface at Joe Robbie Stadium.

The 49ers line kept the rushers at bay, giving Montana a pocket, and Montana kept finding his receivers against a secondary with six defensive backs. Montana hit Rice and tight end John Frank on two short passes, then Rice again for 17 yards along the left sideline.

After a 13-yard pass to Craig, Montana faced a second-and-20 hole. Rice, named MVP for an 11-catch, 215-yard game, wheeled through the coverage and made a spectacular 27-yard catch at the Bengals' 18. After Craig caught another pass at the 10, Montana drilled the ball to Taylor behind defensive back Ray Horton for the winning score.

Please see COVER STORY next page ▶



By Robert Deutsch, USA TODAY

GIVE HIM A HAND: MVP Jerry Rice stretches for one of his 11 catches, a 30-yarder behind Bengals linebacker Leon White.

Illini fight their way to No. 1

By Karen Allen
USA TODAY

Three good things happened to the Illinois basketball team Sunday: It beat No. 21 Georgia Tech 103-92 in double overtime, extended its Division I-leading winning streak to 17 games and climbed to the top of the USA TODAY/CNN Top 25 poll.

"It's great, but we've got to play like we're No. 1," Illini se-

nior Lowell Hamilton said.

One bad thing happened, however. Guard Kendall Gill fractured his left foot and is expected to miss seven weeks.

The Fighting Illini (17-0) have two Big Ten Conference games this week: at Minnesota Thursday and at home against No. 16 Indiana Saturday.

Illinois' climb to the top was made possible when former No. 1 Duke lost twice last week, to Atlantic Coast Conference

opponents North Carolina and Wake Forest. In response to the slump, Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski gave his team a two-day rest.

"It's January," he said. "We're down, we're banged up, and we're struggling. You can call us bad, you can call us overrated, maybe all that's right. Maybe we need that to happen to us, because we need to come together."

Duke dropped to seventh.

Also Sunday:

▶ Center Pervis Ellison made 10 of 11 shots from the field and all eight free throws to lead No. 3 Louisville (13-2) to a 92-74 victory against No. 15 Nevada-Las Vegas (13-3).

▶ No. 9 Seton Hall made a school-record nine three-point shots in a 108-67 victory against New Hampshire College.

Andrew Gaze and John Morton scored 20 points each for the Pirates (17-1).

minutes, scoring with 34 seconds left on Joe Montana's 10-yard pass to John Taylor.

And, of course, the big diamond-studded rings go to the 49ers. But there were no losers in perhaps the most exciting of any Super Bowl championship.

"If you bought a ticket to this one, maybe you walked away thinking it was worth the \$100 or the \$1,000 you paid for it," said Bengals coach Sam Wyche, whose dogged underdogs struggled to a 16-13 lead with 3:20 left before succumbing to Montana's brilliance.

The game had special-teams explosions — (a 93-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by Cincinnati's Stanford Jennings), 49ers receiver Jerry Rice's special magic (11 catches for a record 215 yards and the MVP award), and Montana's crafty quarterbacking.

"We never gave up," Montana said after throwing for a record 357 yards. "We just came back and drove the ball right down the field."

Forced to fight for his job this season and sometimes at odds with coach Bill Walsh, Montana showed great control and savvy when time was short, yardage was long, and the Niners sat on the wrong end of a 16-13 score.

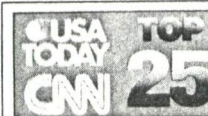
"We just kept talking to ourselves, telling ourselves not to get down," running back Roger Craig said. "And then there was Joe's leadership."

Montana led by example, by intensity, and with all his talents. He completed eight of nine passes for 97 yards on that last, improbable drive and didn't settle for the tying field goal, either.

"He's just as cool and composed as they come," said 49ers center Randy Cross, retiring after 13 seasons.

Walsh, who has a year left on his contract but some uncertainties about continuing coaching, might also retire.

"I'm going to meet with (owner) Ed (DeBartolo Jr.) early in the week and we'll decide what our future should be," said Walsh, who has coached the 49ers for 10 years.



THE TOP 5

1. Illinois 17-0
2. Georgetown 14-1
3. Louisville 13-2
4. Oklahoma 15-2
5. North Carolina 16-3

▶ COMPLETE POLL, 13C

▶ Men's, women's results, recaps, 13C

COVER STORY

Montana's drive inspires 49ers

Continued from 1C

Said retiring 49ers center Randy Cross of Montana, "You don't ever want anybody else who ever played this game on a big drive like that."

Before Montana drove the 49ers the length of the field, the Bengals had overcome their suspect secondary by playing tenacious defense up front, getting some tough running yards from rookie fullback Ickey Woods and taking the lead on two big plays: Stanford Jennings' 93-yard kickoff return, and Jim Breech's 40-yard field goal with 3:20 left.

Cincinnati needed plays like that because the 49ers' defense gave Boomer Esiason all kinds of trouble, forcing the Bengals quarterback into an 11-for-25, 144-yard game. Against Esiason, the 49ers:

- Often had Eric Wright, Greg Cox, Tom Holmoe and Darryl Pollard in a seven-back secondary;

- Sometimes bumped flanker Eddie Brown at the line with Bill Romanowski, a 230-pound linebacker;

- Kept flopping Charles Haley, a linebacker-defensive end, from side to side;

- Sometimes dropped Pierce Holt, a 280-pound tackle, into pass coverage.

The changing coverages turned Esiason into a hesitant passer who sometimes ended up guessing and scrambling toward the sidelines.

The 49ers, however, had Montana and Rice, and no matter what kind of coverages they faced, they were the big edge in Super Bowl XXIII.

At the end, with the game on the line, the Bengals went into their prevent defense.

But Montana's protectors kept scuffling and shoving, holding out the desperate Bengals rushers while Montana worked his magic with Rice, Taylor and Craig.

"The guys up front played hard," Montana said. "They gave me the time to do what we had to do. I had all the time to throw the ball."

Maybe it was the loss of Tim Krumrie, the Bengals' tenacious nose tackle, who broke



By H. Darr Belsar, USA TODAY
JOE MONTANA: Celebrates his third Super Bowl victory.

his left leg on the seventh defensive play. Or the disbelief that Eddie Edwards, 34, still could rush a passer.

Whatever the reason, the Bengals used an overworked Jason Buck-Jim Skow-David Grant-Skip McCleendon rush on the final drive, and it couldn't touch Montana.

Behind them, the Bengals' secondary couldn't stop Rice, and it couldn't handle Craig in the underneath zones. The Bengals simply had too many weaknesses on pass coverage.

This was clearly Montana's finest Super Bowl. In the 49ers' three Super Bowl victories, he has completed 61 of 93 attempts (65.6 percent) for 845 yards and six TDs. He has yet to throw an interception.

Woods had a decent game. But it wasn't productive enough to enable Esiason and Brown, a receiver with 4.42-second speed in the 40-yard dash, to hit the big play-action pass. Brown had only four catches, his longest a 17-yarder in front of brash Tim McKyer on the first Bengals' play.

After that, the 49ers kept throwing new looks at Esiason and swarming toward Woods to keep the Bengals from scoring. The Bengals had two big chances to break through. They had a first down at the 23, but Esiason overthrew Brown outside the goal line on a strange third-and-3 call from

the 16. The Bengals settled for a field goal.

In the third quarter, the Bengals had a first down at the 22. Fuller and Kevin Fagan gang-tackled Woods for a yard loss and Esiason was pressured by Fagan into a third-down incompleteness. So they took another booming field goal by Breech for a 6-3 lead.

"This team has great character," winning coach Bill Walsh said. "They just hung in there. It's a culmination of years of hard work and a quarterback who is one of the greatest of all time. It's a great moment for all of us."

It wasn't easy for the 49ers. Sure, they totaled 468 yards against a suspect Bengals defense. And their ever-changing defense, with Haley flip-flopping and Lott hitting anything that moved, held the Bengals to 250 yards and sacked Esiason five times.

Yet the 49ers tangled themselves in the kind of errors usually associated with Super Bowl losers. It all began when offensive tackle Steve Wallace fracture his left fibula on the third play, bringing big Bubba Paris into the game. Paris repeatedly was beaten by Jason Buck, a rangy, speedy rusher.

But, in the final minutes, on which the 49ers produced the highest drama of 23 Super Bowls on their winning drive, Montana and Rice took over.

"I guess, as we all know, Jerry Rice is one of the more phenomenal athletes in the league," said linebacker Reggie Williams, who was a target of the 49ers' power sweep all afternoon. "He made the difference, no doubt about it."

For reasons known only to coach Sam Wyche, the Bengals virtually wrote shifty running back James Brooks out of the game plan. And they never dug into Wyche's bag of gadget plays, not even the kind of reverse with which Walsh opened the game.

"We didn't do anything wrong," Wyche said. "The 49ers just played a great game and made some great plays right at the end."

The great ones like Joe Montana always find a way.

SPORTSTALK

BEHIND THE SCENES IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS

Ickey's future in TV ads is set

Having led the Cincinnati Bengals to the Super Bowl, rookie running back Ickey Woods has become a hot advertising property.

Woods, who appears in television commercials for Oldsmobile, has six-figure endorsement contracts to supplement his reported \$300,000-a-year salary from the Bengals. "The last month has been unbelievable," said Marty Bauer, vice president of operations of Shelby & Shane, a Cincinnati advertising agency with limited rights to represent Woods.

Trade in Ickey Woods headbands and sweatshirts has been especially brisk during the Bengals' march through the

end of the season and the AFC playoffs. Since Dec. 1, his fans have doled out more than \$70,000 on the products.

At least 37 requests from marketers seeking pitchmen have stacked up on Allen's desk awaiting Woods' approval, but Woods said he had no plans to consider any of them until after the Super Bowl.

Woods now must retain his star status. Allen says Woods will have staying power because his fame is based on talent, not an oddity such as the weight and size of William "The Refrigerator" Perry of the Chicago Bears.

"He's not a freak like The Refrigerator," Allen said.

Showing his talent



AP
CATCHY TUNE: The Cincinnati Bengals lost the game but won the talent show. Wide receiver Mike Martin, on injured reserve, won \$25,000 for his favorite charity for his singing on NBC's pregame talent show.

Gault wins Jeep then hits the road

MIAMI — Willie Gault won the annual Jeep Superstars competition, narrowly beating two-time defending champ Herschel Walker. But Gault didn't stay for Sunday's Super Bowl.

Gault, who brought his wife and two children to the Sheraton Bal Harbour for vacation while he rowed, bowled and ran for dollars — first prize is \$15,000 and a Jeep — headed back to Los Angeles Thursday.

"I'm supposed to join the (U.S.) Olympic bodied team next month for the World Championships," he said. He plans to spend a couple weeks competing unless a movie part comes along.

— Carol Herwig

Largent is Man of Year

Steve Largent, a 13-year veteran wide receiver for the Seattle Seahawks, was named the NFL Man of the Year by The Travelers Companies.

Largent was chosen among the 28 nominees — one from each NFL team — by a national selection committee.

He was presented with a \$25,000 check, which was donated to the Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Seattle.

Largent's 3-year-old son, Kramer, was born with spina bifida. He has been instrumental in fundraising activities for the hospital.

Super Bowl balance sheet

Sunday's winner wasn't the only big money maker, according to Sports Inc. — each of the NFL's 28 teams will receive nearly \$600,000 from the Super Bowl. That's 1/28th of what's left over after the NFL's expenses. This is where the money comes from and where it goes in millions of dollars.

| INCOME | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| TV rights | \$18.0M |
| Radio rights | 1.3 |
| Ticket sales | 8.1 |
| Add. luxury box income | 227 |
| Total | \$27.627 |
| EXPENSES | |
| Players' shares | \$4.860 |
| Team costs | 2,280 |
| Pre-game, halftime entertainment | 750 |
| NFL party | 600 |
| Hotel expenses (league personnel) | 600 |
| Super Bowl rings | 432 |
| Insurance | 400 |
| Stadium construction | 150 |
| Media hospitality | 150 |
| NFL staff transportation | 100 |
| Stadium groundskeepers | 100 |
| Game officials | 077 |
| Add'd. public relations help | 050 |
| Ticket printing | 020 |
| Pre-planning | 015 |
| Trophy | 010 |
| Total | \$10.744M |

Source: Sports Inc.

Pittsburgh starts drive for Rooney statue

Pittsburgh television station WPXI is leading a drive to build a statue of late Pittsburgh Steelers owner Art Rooney at Three Rivers Stadium.

A public fund-raising project was announced Sunday by John Howell, vice president and general manager of WPXI-TV and NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle.

"The idea of a statue supported through a public fund-raising campaign is a wonderful tribute," said Steelers President Dan Rooney.

Howell expects the project to cost \$300,000. Target for dedication of statue: fall of 1990.

Rooney, 87, who founded the team in 1933, died in August. Said Pittsburgh mayor Sophie Masloff: "(The statue) will enable our children and our children's children to recognize the magnitude of what he has done for Pittsburgh."

Donations may be sent to: Art Rooney Statue Fund, c/o WPXI-TV, Dept. L1100P, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-1100.

SUPER BOWL XXIII: 49ERS 20, BENGALS 16

TV SPORTS Montana proves to be QB for ages

AN INSIDE LOOK AT TV SPORTS PROGRAMMING

NBC telecast not quite as super as the game

MIAMI — Most Super Bowl telecasts exceed the lopsided game. Sunday night, NBC fell short of San Francisco's last-minute 20-16 victory against Cincinnati.



RUDY MARTZKE

The TV Scorecard:

Production: NBC's cameras shots were too tight in many cases, especially on Jerry Rice's move to thrust the ball across the goal line to score the key second-half touchdown. But give the hustle award for the shot of Krumrie refusing to go from the locker room to the hospital. Another hustle award to the quick flashback to Fulton Walker's TD kickoff return in Super Bowl XVII after Stanford Jennings' TD. **Grade: B.**

Replays: The network was better here, often getting touching reaction shots of Bengals coach Sam Wyche as he watched a missed pass or reacted to the injury to Krumrie. **Grade: B+.**

Dick Enberg, play-by-play: Usually one of NBC's stalwarts, Enberg again starred from the opening kickoff when he noted the Bengals elected to kick off into the wind. The master of phraseology, Enberg came up with two special lines: On David Fulcher: "His name may be David, but he plays like Goliath." And when John Taylor caught the game-winning pass, he had the quick wit to say, "Taylor, who sells cars in the offseason for Reggie Jackson, hits a home run." **Grade: A-**

Merlin Olsen, game analyst: He was stronger in his overall comments, knocking Boomer Esiason for a bad pass and scolding the Bengals' Lewis Billups for dropping an end zone interception. But he didn't offer an opinion on the 49ers' short field goal attempt that failed, noticed late that Randy Cross had become the 49ers' snapper and said in the final moments the Super Bowl finally had a great game when a more accurate description would have been a close game. It had too many misplays. **Grade: C-**

Don Shula, studio analyst: He might have had too many X's and O's, but Shula spoke with authority. Contrary to a CBS Radio report, though, Shula isn't quitting coaching to go into broadcasting. **Grade: B.**

Postgame show: Bob Costas, who recovered from a day in the hospital from food poisoning to handle the 49ers' locker room, and Marv Albert, in the Bengals' asked the right questions and avoided those bores that open up

MIAMI — At last, the Super Bowl has its mythical moment. After 23 tries, we finally have seen The Game, The Drive and The Quarterback against which all others will be judged.

Jerry Rice was a deserving MVP in the 49ers' 20-16 victory, but it was Montana who took every quarterback's fantasy and turned it into real life.

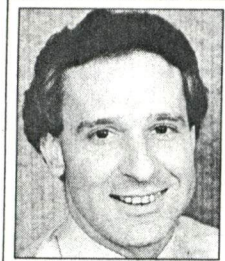
Hollywood would reject this fairy tale if it showed up on a script. Montana turned it into history.

A 92-yard drive to win. Completed with 34 seconds left. Montana was 8-for-9 during it and, because of penalties, actually threw for 97 yards on this march.

Terry Bradshaw never faced a task so monumental in any of Pittsburgh's four Super Bowl victories, nor has any other Super Bowl quarterback.

It was Montana's Cincinnati counterpart, Boomer Esiason, who was first to nominate Montana's drive as the Super Bowl's most magical minutes.

"I think that what Joe did at the end, you might as well forget about the great Denver drive," said Esiason of John Elway's 98-yard masterpiece three seasons ago in the AFC ti-



TOM WEIR

tle game against Cleveland.

"It's now the great San Francisco drive that won them the Super Bowl," said Esiason.

The other drive that came to mind was the 89-yard one that sent San Francisco to its first Super Bowl. That one, in the 1981 NFC title game against Dallas, ended with Dwight Clark making "The Catch."

But those two epic marches were just to get to this game. Sunday's was for everything.

For the frail-backed Montana, it ended a season in which he risked his career and his health on every hit and had to fight to keep his job.

Rice's MVP day comes with a twist

By Ben Brown
USA TODAY

MIAMI — It was a Miami Rice kind of day for the world champion San Francisco 49ers. "A day I'll never forget," said Super Bowl Most Valuable Player Jerry Rice.

The four-year player set a Super Bowl record with his 215 yards on 11 receptions. Not bad for a guy who early in the week twisted his ankle.

"It turned on me Monday in practice," said Rice, 26, "and it was sore the next day and the next. But there was no way I was going to be kept out of the Super Bowl."

Rice's father, mother, wife and daughter joined him on the postgame interview platform.

"I never did think he was hurt," said Joe Nathan Rice of his son's twisted ankle. "Maybe

he was just fooling you guys. No matter. I knew he would drag it if he had to."

Jerry Rice said, "When I came out and warmed up today, it didn't bother me. And I was so motivated today, I didn't think about it."

For Rice, a first-round draft choice out of Mississippi Valley State in 1985, the Super Bowl MVP Award bumps his superstar career to a higher level.

In his first year in the National Football League, he set club receiving records. And last season, he was chosen the NFL's MVP.

Rice tried to downplay his individual effort Sunday in favor of team play.

"If it was up to me," he said, "I would have made (quarterback) Joe Montana the MVP. He just exemplifies what we're all about."

Asked about criticism he has

"I've seen him do this time and time and time again," said the 49ers' Ronnie Lott. "It's sad that people have questioned his ability, but you can't question his heart. You can't question his desire to be the best."

Montana's game-winning drive was so mesmerizing that his 357 total passing yards were almost an afterthought, even though they set a Super Bowl record. He also has the No. 3 passing yardage total in a Super Bowl — his 331 yards four years ago.

Overall Sunday, he was 23-for-36, meaning Montana now has sent the ball airborne 93 times in three Super Bowls without an interception.

"Joe Montana has done it before," said San Francisco linebacker Bill Romanowski. "Joe is the best quarterback in the world, bar none."

As Montana took over with 3:10 left and trailing 16-13, his mind also turned to the 1981 drive against Dallas.

"I thought, 'Here we go again. We've got a chance for another drive, like against Dallas.'"

There was no speech in the huddle. Asked to recapture his mood, Montana was surprising-

ly mundane.

"Maybe you focus in a little more ... Everybody focuses in ... I don't know."

Boring stuff that, but maybe that's the unexcited state you have to maintain to make a drive like this happen. We mortals will never know.

First thing tested was Montana's voice. Calling audibles much of the way, he had to repeat plays five and six times.

"I was screaming so loud, I about hyperventilated," said Montana.

But he was about to take away Cincinnati's breath, and turn it into a dying gasp.

On the 10-yard game-winner to John Taylor, "It happened sort of in slow motion," said Montana. His view of Taylor was blocked, but he heard the cheers and knew it had worked.

He wouldn't call it the best game of his career and only begrudgingly allowed that it might be his best drive.

"I made too many mistakes early on," said Montana, ever the perfectionist. "I missed some passes."

Yes, there is very little that's Broadway about this Joe. Unlike Joe Namath, we'll never

Montana master of Super games

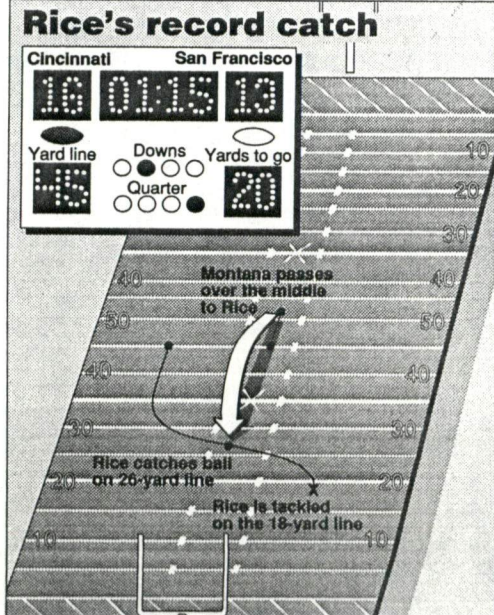
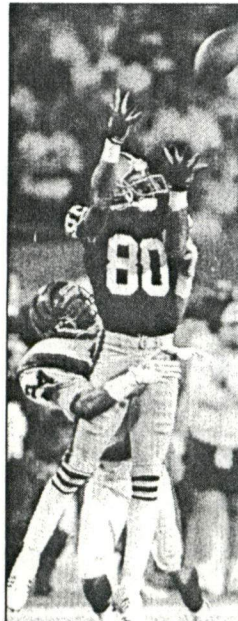
| Yards per game | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Joe Montana | 281.7 |
| Terry Bradshaw | 233 |
| Bart Starr | 226 |
| Jim Plunkett | 216.5 |
| Pass completion pct. | |
| Joe Montana | 65.6 |
| Bob Griese | 63.4 |
| Jim Plunkett | 63 |
| Roger Staubach | 62.2 |
| Touchdowns | |
| Terry Bradshaw | 9 |
| Roger Staubach | 8 |
| Montana | 8 |
| Jim Plunkett | 4 |

Note: Minimum two games
Source: USA TODAY research

By Jeff Dionise, USA TODAY

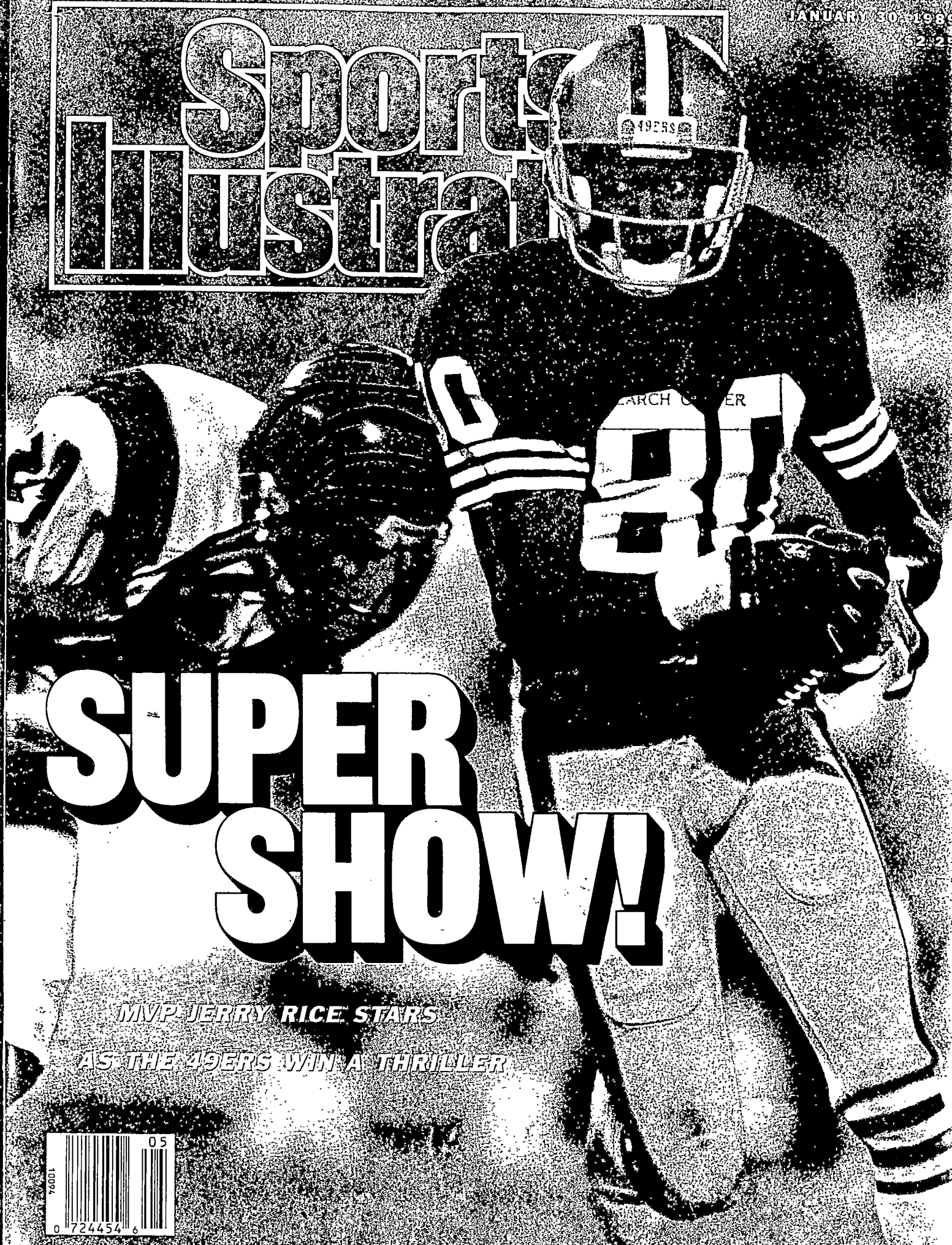
see him guarantee a Super Bowl victory.

No need to, because so far that's what his mere presence does.



JANUARY 30, 1989
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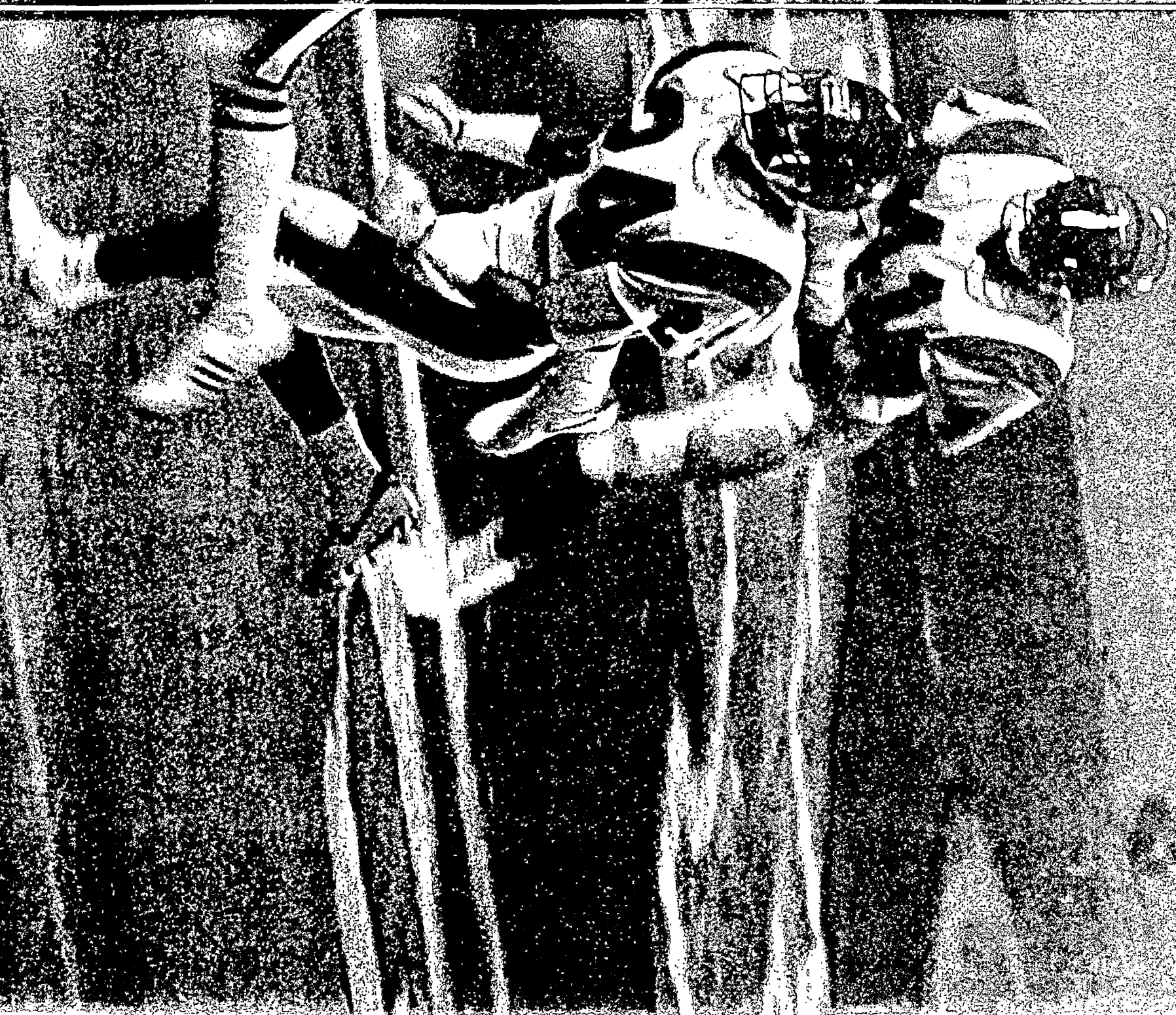
MVP JERRY RICE STARS

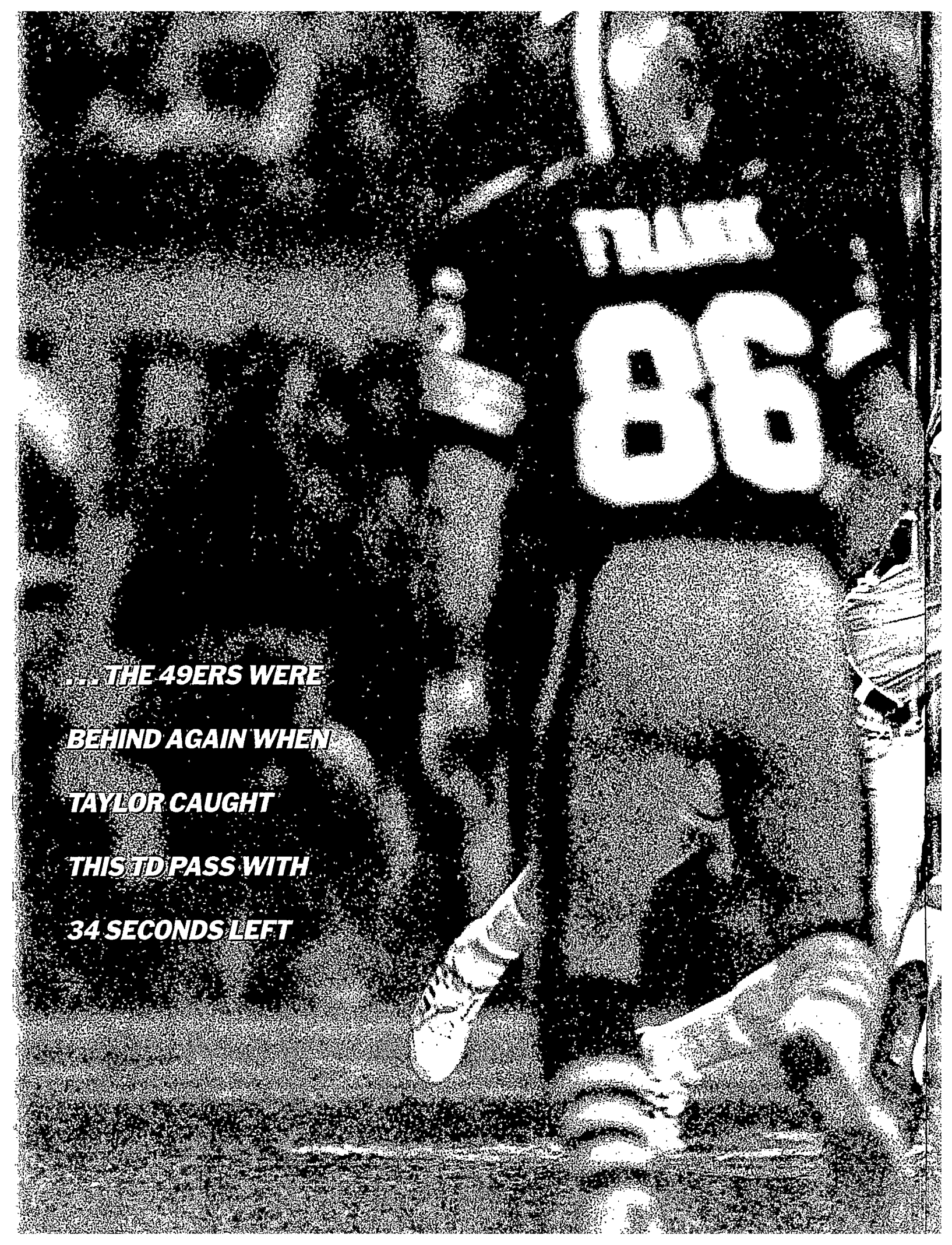
AS THE 49ERS WIN A THRILLER



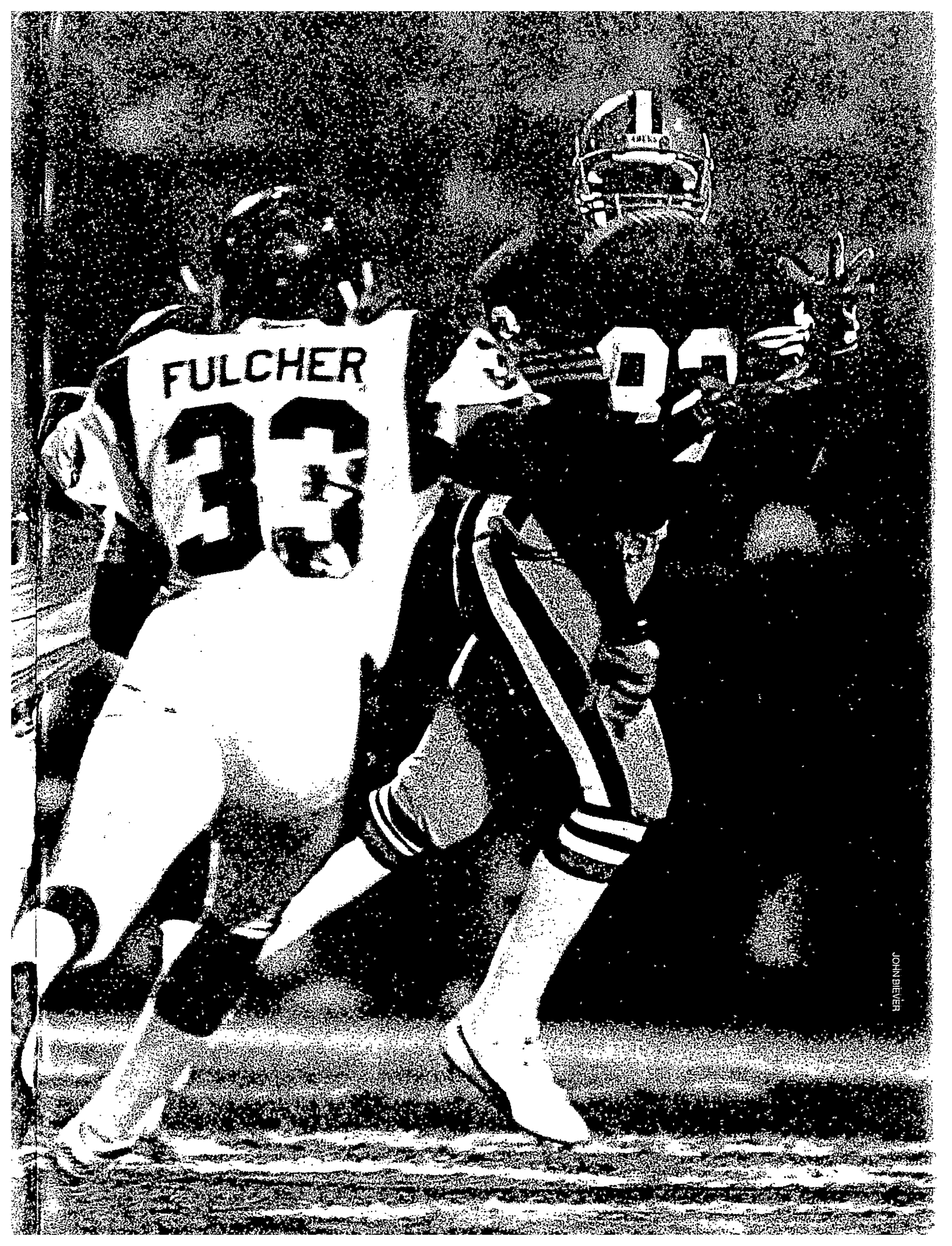
**RICE CAUGHT THIS
14-YARDER FROM
MONTANA TO TIE THE
GAME IN THE FOURTH
QUARTER, BUT ...**



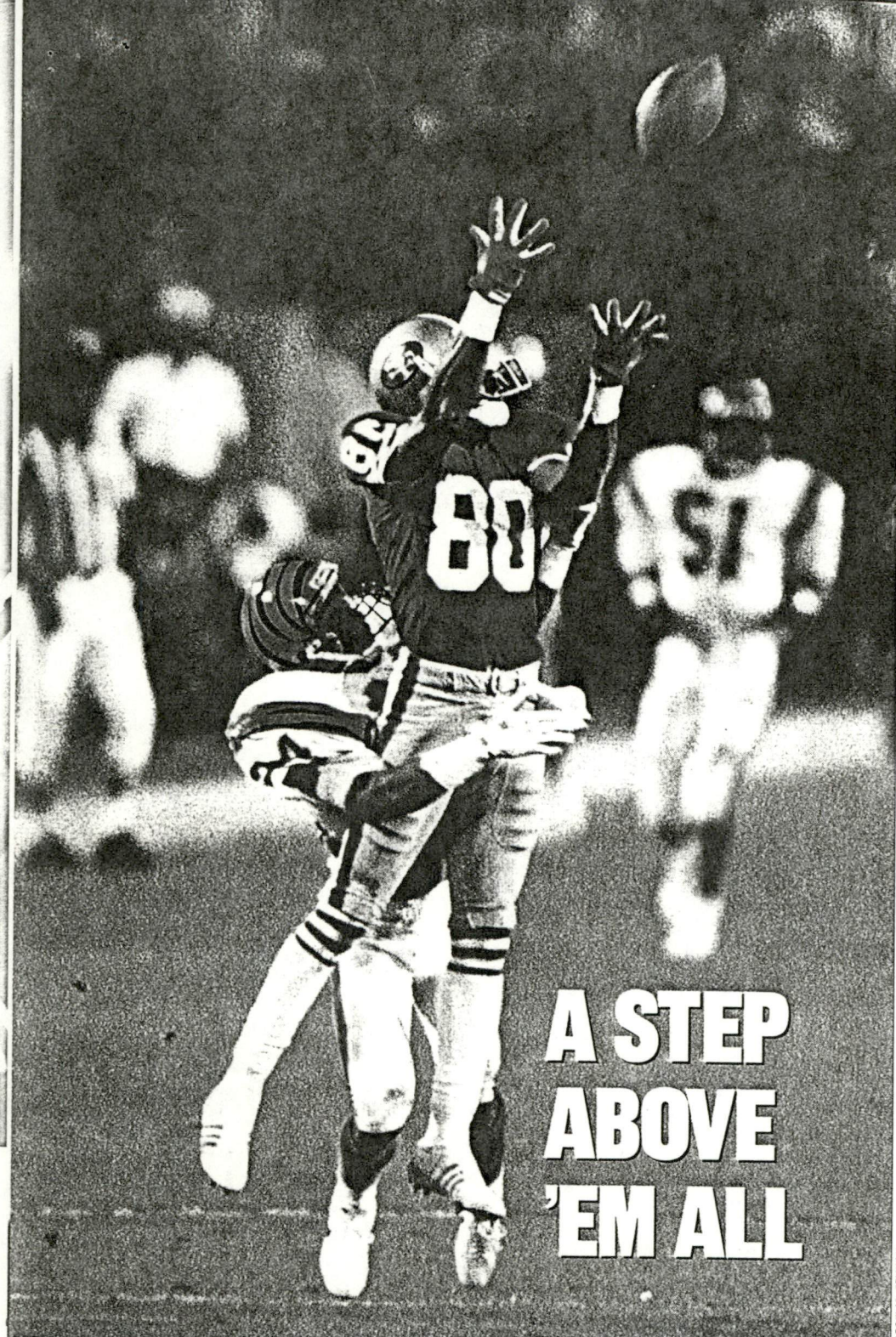




**...THE 49ERS WERE
BEHIND AGAIN WHEN
TAYLOR CAUGHT
THIS TD PASS WITH
34 SECONDS LEFT**



JOHN BIEVER



A STEP ABOVE 'EM ALL

RONALD G. MODRA

JERRY RICE WANTED TO BE ALONE. So he separated himself from the crowd and slipped smoothly off the field and into the locker room. Then he walked over to a row of lockers and started crying with such deep-felt emotion he had to bend over to control his tears. Finally, after a few moments, he lifted his head, smiled and joined his teammates in the postgame revelry.

Rice, the San Francisco 49ers' extraordinary wide receiver, had reason to be emotional. He had just caught 11 passes from Joe Montana, including one 14-yard touchdown grab, and would soon be named MVP of Super Bowl XXIII. But what set him apart was the manner in which he caught those passes and the vistas he opened for others to catch what he couldn't. "We didn't do a bad job on him," said Cincinnati Bengal

had fumbled on his longest gain, 16 yards. Only Rice had shone. He made a nifty one-handed grab on a sideline pattern in the first quarter and had a 30-yarder on a deep corner route in the second-quarter drive that ended on the two. But Rice was playing on a tender right ankle; he had aggravated an old injury during a workout on Monday of Super Bowl week (see box, below). On Wednesday a rumor circulated that the ankle business was a hoax and that the Niners

Rice slowed and then outleapt Billups (24) to make this 44-yard, fourth-quarter grab.

strong safety David Fulcher. "He only got one touchdown." When you gain a record 215 yards receiving in the Super Bowl and the defense doesn't think it has done a bad job, you must be a different breed of cat.

Early in the week it appeared as if Rice might not get to show off his special breeding because he turned his right ankle during a workout, aggravating an injury he had been nursing for three months. In response, Bengal cornerback Eric Thomas said, "That's bull——. Jerry Rice ain't hurt. I heard he went dancing." Rice did go dancing after his spill, and before the game he admitted his ankle wasn't swollen. But his coach, Bill Walsh, seemed to take the injury seriously, perhaps to ease the pressure on Rice, who was playing in his first Super Bowl. Walsh needn't have worried. "I did O.K.," said Rice, summing up his performance. "If it was up to me, I would have given the MVP to Joe."

At the MVP award ceremony Rice was joined on the podium by, among others, his mother, Eddie B., and his father, Joe. They had driven to Miami from Starkville, Miss., along with Rice's seven brothers and sisters. "If he had asked me, I would have suggested Epsom salts and vinegar and water for his ankle," said Eddie B. "He never asked." Joe, a mason with whom Jerry used to work, said, "No, I don't think he'll be coming back to bricklaying. I think he's doing what God intended for him to do."

Rice is fulfilling that destiny admirably. "The first time I saw him, he was the best I ever saw, and I learned how to

had intended to rest Rice in practice anyway. "No hoax, man," said Rice. "I turned it pretty badly. I can run straight ahead, but I won't know whether I can cut on it until game time."

The Bengals weren't having much better luck in the first half. Ickey Woods had 27 yards on his first four carries, but a thunderous hit by free safety Ronnie Lott calmed him down toward the end of the first quarter. Woods would get only 10 yards the rest of the half. Esia-

son was struggling. He finished the half with 4 completions in 12 attempts for 48 yards. In his previous five games he had completed fewer than half his throws, but the Bengals had run so well they didn't need his arm. He had sprained his left ankle and the index finger on his throwing hand in the last regular-season game, and observers at the Bengals' closed Super Bowl workouts said privately that Esiason still wasn't right.

Finally, the no-huddle, quick-snap

offense, which had been such a hot mid-week topic, was a big zero. Cincinnati tried it a few times in the first half and then junked it. "They weren't catching us in the middle of any shifts or anything like that," said 49er strong safety Jeff Fuller afterward. "I think we surprised them because we didn't try to shift people around or do anything fancy. We stayed in our base defense and lined up left and right with our DBs—strong safety and cornerback left, free safety

turn on the television set at an early age," said former 49er receiver Dwight Clark. "Jerry's like a Mike Tyson, a Michael Jordan, a Joe Montana. He's a step above the field."

There's only one man in NFL history who can match Rice's numbers: Don Hutson of the Green Bay Packers. Hutson, who is now 76 and living in Rancho Mirage, Calif., performed in the NFL for 11 seasons, from 1935 through '45. Playing in 10- to 12-game seasons, he scored 105 regular-season touchdowns, 99 of them on passes. He also led the NFL in receptions eight times, including five seasons in a row. In his four years in the NFL, which is now on a 16-game schedule, Rice has scored 53 touchdowns, 49 of them on receptions, and that doesn't include his six post-season TD catches this year.

Numbers are not all Hutson and Rice have in common. Both come from the Deep South: Hutson from Pine Bluff, Ark., and Rice from Starkville. And both were spirited away from other teams. Hutson, an All-America from Alabama, had signed an additional contract with the football Brooklyn Dodgers, but the Packers won rights to him because their contract arrived at the league office with an earlier postmark. Similarly, Rice, an All-America from Mississippi Valley State, was set to be taken by the Dallas Cowboys as the 17th pick in 1985 when San Francisco traded for the No. 16 spot and grabbed him. Hutson is generally credited with having invented pass patterns, and Rice has reinvented them. "I like for the defender to think

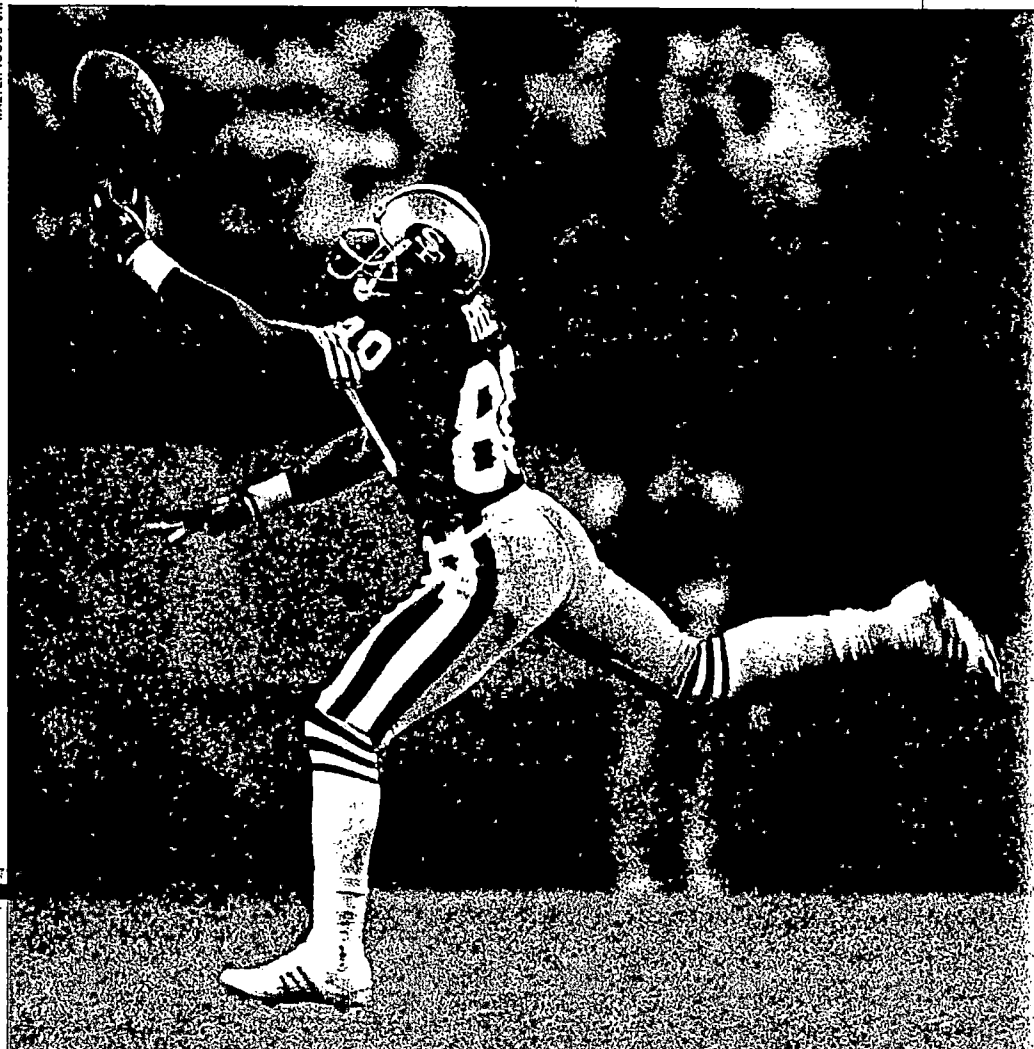
the opposite from what I'm going to do," he says. "I know how to influence that."

Each of Rice's catches Sunday had its own signature, but the most impressive may have been one that didn't set up a score. On a first-and-10 from the San Francisco 18 with 11:05 left in the game, Rice ran a streak and Montana put the ball up high and deep. Sensing that cornerback Lewis Billups had him covered, Rice slowed, felt Billups with his arm and then leapt to another level to snare the ball. A 44-yard play. Lynn Swann revisited. Lynn Swann squared.

That drive died, but the Niners came back. And on the decisive touchdown pass, Rice left a black hole behind him in the secondary, luring defenders away from the ultimate target, John Taylor. Throughout the game, Rice fooled the Bengal secondary despite being hampered in his ability to run multiple-cut patterns because of the impaired ankle. Instead he had to rely on fades, diagonals, quick ins or outs, and the occasional streak—what Rice calls a "burn."

Make that a Mississippi burn. And give it four stars. —RALPH WILEY

WALTER IOOSS JR.



Did Rice catch this one? Sure he did, one-handed, for 16 yards in the first quarter.



PHOTOGRAPH BY W. NHOE

Rice's 215 yards receiving, on 11 catches, put him in the Super Bowl record book.

and cornerback right—no matter how they shifted.”

At the start of the third quarter the Bengals took command. Their ground attack came alive. And veteran wideout Cris Collinsworth, who had played only sporadically during the season, came through with a diving 23-yard catch and then an 11-yarder down to the Niners' 22. Cincinnati kept the ball for 9½ minutes before booting a 43-yard field goal, which put it ahead 6-3.

Three minutes later the Bengals committed their only turnover of the game, and it cost them three points. Esiason threw for Tim McGee on the left sideline, but Bill Romanowski, a 6' 4" rookie linebacker, who was drifting underneath, leapt, batted the ball and came down with it. “It wasn't that Boomer didn't see me,” said Romanowski. “It's just that I don't think he figured I could jump that high.”

The Niners had the ball on Cincy's 23, and again they came up a yard short of a crucial first down, but Mike Cofer's 32-yard field goal made the score 6-6

with 0:50 remaining in the third quarter. It looked as if a Super Bowl would be tied going into the fourth quarter for the first time ever.

But Stanford Jennings, whose wife had had a baby girl the night before and who had dreamed of running a kick back all the way as a kind of present for little Kelsey, did just that with the ensuing kickoff. He went 93 yards down the middle of the field without breaking stride or making a cut. The wedge in front of Jennings—tackles David Douglas and Jim Rourke, linebackers Leon White and Leo Barker—had swept the board clean.

The Bengals led 13-6, and still no touchdowns had been scored by either offensive unit. All of a sudden the game opened up, and the Super Bowl everyone will remember began. Starting on his own 15, Montana hooked up with Rice on a little out pattern. Rice shook off cornerback Eric Thomas and turned the play into a 30-yard gain. On the next play, as the fourth quarter started, Montana connected with Craig on a perfect 40-yard fly. Then the 49ers got lucky. They were on the Cincinnati 14, and Montana tried a slant pass to Taylor,

who was on the goal line. Billups jumped and should have had the interception. “I knew they'd go to the slant, and I knew I had to get there fast,” said Billups. “The ball got there really quickly. It surprised both of us, the receiver and me. It hit my shoulder pads.”

Rice lined up in a slot left on the next play and broke to the corner as Taylor cut inside him. Montana laid the ball out perfectly, Rice caught it on the five, wrapped the ball around the goal-line pylon, and the game was tied again.

After the Bengals took over on their own 32 with 8:47 to go, Esiason passed to Ira Hillary, Cincinnati's No. 4 wideout, for 17 yards on third-and-13, and Woods bit off 17 yards on two runs. San Francisco was sagging. “The middle of our line was controlling things,” said Bengal tackle Anthony Munoz. “Right then I felt we were going to win it.”

The drive ended with a 40-yard field goal, which gave Cincinnati a 16-13 lead. A penalty against the Niners on the kickoff moved the ball back to the San Francisco eight, and the clock showed 3:10. There was time for one miracle.

“Did I say anything inspirational?”

said Montana afterward. "Oh, no, I was concerned with other things. We were calling two plays at a time, and I had to think about what the second one would be. I did say to myself, though, Here we go, just like Dallas in '82."

The resemblance was striking. The drive that put the Niners in Super Bowl XVI, against the Bengals no less, covered 89 yards in 13 plays. It started with 4:54 left and ended at 0:51. This one covered 92 yards in 11 plays. It began with 3:10 to play and ended at 0:34. The Cowboys went with six defensive backs, and the Niners stayed with their standard two-wideout set. San Francisco won the game with power sweeps and short passes.

"A lot of teams would have just sent everyone down on a couple of bombs," said Walsh after the '82 game, "but we wanted to get 10- and 12-yard chunks, and we thought we could do it effectively because of the defense they were in."

Wyche was a 49er assistant, sending down plays from the press box, on that January afternoon seven years ago. Now he was on the opposite sideline, agonizing. He should have remembered. After the first few plays, Cincy went with six defensive backs. The 49ers, for the most part, stayed in their base offense. At first their yardage came in small chunks: 8 yards to Craig, 7 to Frank, 7 to Rice. Then came bigger chunks: 17 to Rice, 13 to Craig. It was inside stuff mostly, plays they wouldn't figure to call with time running out.

"When they started the last drive, do you know what I was thinking?" said Montana's mother, Theresa. "The 1979 Cotton Bowl, when he brought Notre Dame from behind in the fourth quarter. That was the best—until now."

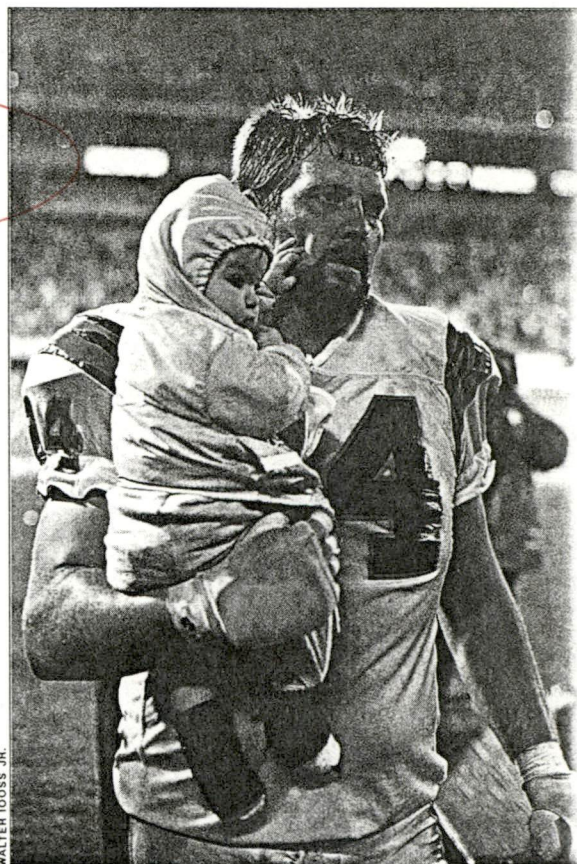
"We had them on their eight with three minutes to go," said Collinsworth, "and somebody came up to me and said, 'We got 'em now.' I said, 'Have you taken a look at who's quarterbacking the San Francisco 49ers?' That's what it comes

down to. Joe Montana is not human. I don't want to call him a god, but he's definitely somewhere in between. I'm sure he did it in peewee football, in high school, college and now in professional football. Every time he's had the chips down and people counting him out, he's come back."

Cross was the last player out of the San Francisco locker room. As he was leaving, someone asked him about Montana and Rice. He stopped and gave the question some thought. "We have more superhumans on this team—Montana, Jerry Rice," he said. "Talk to the trainers about these guys. Knees, ankles—other guys say, 'Fine, I'll see you in two weeks.' They line up. As far as Joe Montana's concerned, I hope people will finally stop saying they rate him with the best. He *is* the best. There's never been a better big-game quarterback.

"God, what else does this guy have to do? You name it and he's done it in a 10-year career. And he's not finished."

That gives us something to look forward to, because as Montana demonstrated again on Sunday, there may never have been a better finisher. ■



WALTER IOOSS JR.



RICHARD MACKSON

As Montana was meeting with the press, Bengal center Bruce Kozerski shared defeat with his son, Matthew.

WHEN VINCE LOMBARDI RETIRED AS COACH of the Green Bay Packers after winning the 1968 Super Bowl, he said he had "nothing left to prove." San Francisco coach Bill Walsh, who is looking at a third Super Bowl victory, might take the same route. Walsh has been hinting

that after Sunday's game against the Cincinnati Bengals, win or lose, he won't be back as coach.

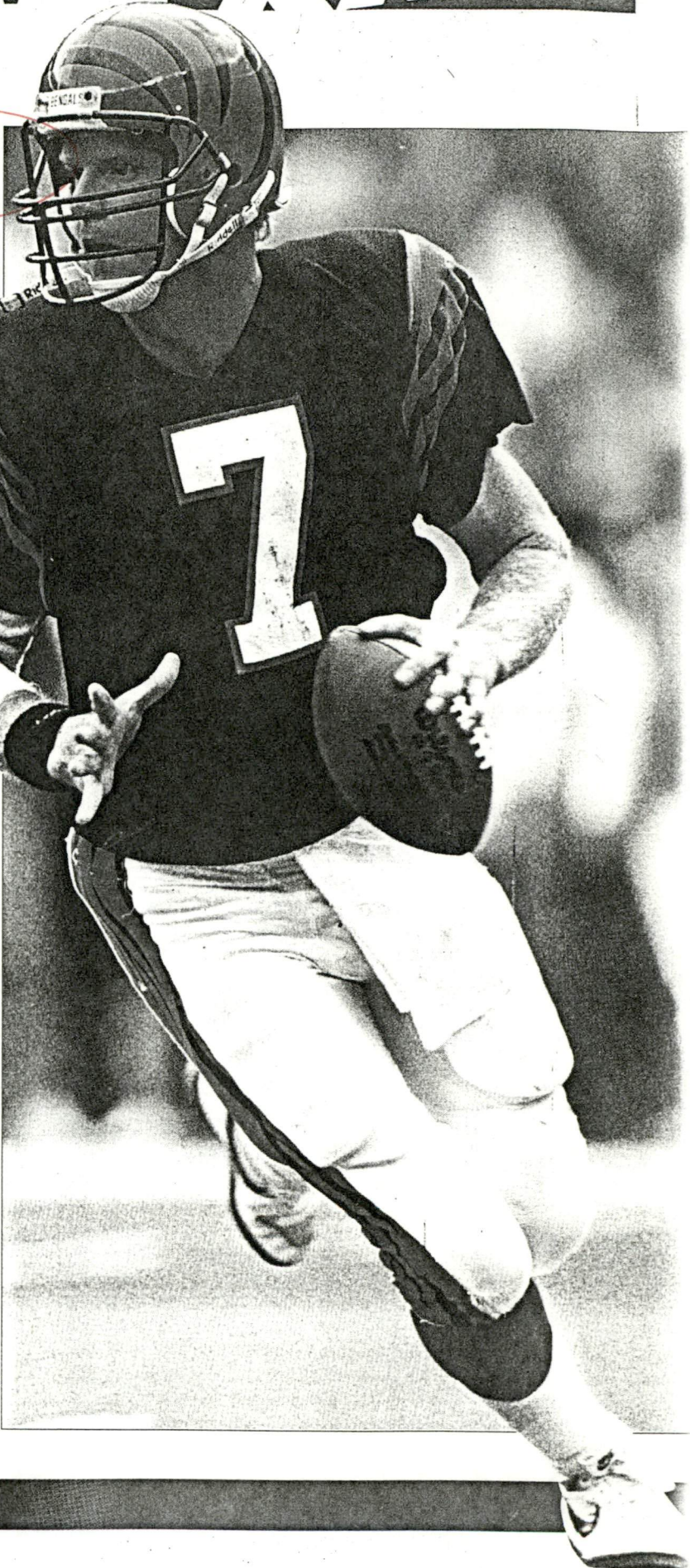
On this uncertain note, Super Bowl XXIII is launched, with Walsh's 49ers a solid favorite over the Bengals, coached by Sam Wyche, who is happy just to be employed. When Cincinnati finished 4-11 last season, Wyche's job appeared to be in serious jeopardy, but he survived. He roomed offensive and defensive players together to foster a spirit of closeness. He got tougher on club discipline. His quarterback, Boomer Esiason, had his finest year as a pro. And a heavy-duty rookie runner, Ickey Woods, put some punch in the ground attack.

The Bengals went 12-4 to tie the Buffalo Bills and Chicago Bears for the best record in the league and won their two playoff games in convincing fashion. Nonetheless, few observers give Cincinnati much of a chance against the 49ers, who were even more impressive in their two playoff victories. The Niners are the hot team, and not even the uncertainty over Walsh's future has diminished their popular appeal.

The last time we went through a pre-Super Bowl period like this was in '68, when Lombardi spent the week stalling writers who asked him if the rumors that he was quitting as coach were true. Green Bay beat the Oakland Raiders 33-14, and Lombardi did quit—becoming exclusively a general manager. After a year he moved on to coach the Redskins. That scenario could be repeated.

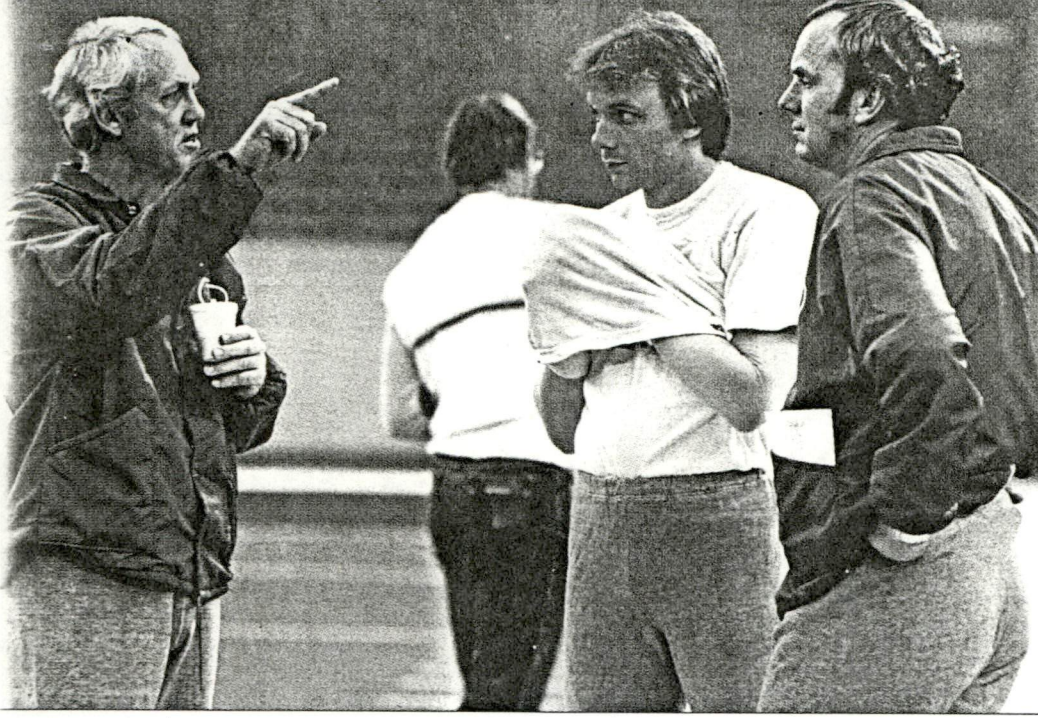
After his 10 years with the 49ers, Walsh certainly has nothing more to prove, especially if he wins on Sunday. Winning three Super Bowls would be a feat matched only by Chuck Noll. His Niners have already become the winningest team of the 1980s. When he joined the Niners in 1979, they had just gone 2-14 and had traded their No. 1 draft choice. In his third year Walsh won a Super Bowl. He might now spend a year or two at the beach and then surface with, say, an expansion team.

"What I'd really like to do," he says, "is take a year off and go back to the roots of football and write three books: coaching at the high school level, at the college level and in the NFL. I'd like to go around the country visiting high schools and colleges. The books would not be money-makers; I'm not interested in one of those autobiographical things. These books would simply be my way of giving something back to the game. Anyway, that's what I'd like



ANTHONY NESTE

WILL ESIASON GET ENOUGH PASS PROTECTION?



WYCHE (RIGHT) AND WALSH COACHED MONTANA IN 1982

to do. What I'll actually do may be something different."

Niners owner Eddie DeBartolo says he would like Walsh to stay on in some capacity. But what capacity? Walsh has one year left on his contract, which pays him \$1.3 million per season. That's a hell of a lot for an overseer. John McVay, San Francisco's vice-president-general manager, says Walsh could "keep doing the things he's doing now, apart from coaching." That could include remaining in charge of player personnel, which Walsh has said is "the only area that contributes to winning aside from coaching." And the Niners have been excellent in that department.

Unlike most NFL teams, the 49ers don't belong to a scouting combine. They have gone their own way in the draft, often bucking prevailing opinions about players. Quarterback Joe Montana, a third-round pick in 1979, was thought to be hard to coach and not to have the strongest of arms. Running back Roger Craig, a second-rounder in 1983, was unpopular with scouts because he had a subpar senior season at Nebraska. Won't play hurt, they said. These two maverick picks produced two future Hall of Famers.

Next case: wide receiver Jerry Rice, who came out in '85. The knock against Rice was that he couldn't really go deep, that he lacked blazing speed. Still, Walsh wanted him, but as the defending Super Bowl champs, the 49ers would draft last. So Walsh gave the New England Patriots a second-round choice to move up and get Rice as the 16th selection in the first round. Result: future Hall of Famer number 3.

The San Francisco roster is loaded with young players who have carried the team through three seasons that should have been a rebuilding phase. Eight starters came from the '86 draft. The top pick in '87, tackle Harris Barton, is a two-year starter. The '88 draft focused on defense, and the first three selections were bull's-eyes. Again, each of the players had a knock against him. End Danny Stubbs was supposedly only a pass rusher; at 26, tackle Pierce Holt was said to be too old—he was 22 by the time he went to

college, at Angelo State, after having had a variety of jobs after high school—and linebacker Bill Romanowski was supposed to have an attitude problem. He liked to do things his way.

Trading up for their first two picks and drafting 25th on the third, the Niners found three guys who could help them immediately. Romanowski started on the outside for Keena Turner, who was sidelined for much of the season because of injuries. They'll share the work on Sunday, with the bigger (6'4", 231 pounds) Romanowski figuring to be a key man in attempting to stop the Bengals' power running game, which has been the best part of their offense.

Stubbs and Holt are regulars in the nickel defense, lining up next to each

other. They've been active pass rushers, and they've also been effective against the run. The Niners' nickel package has been one of the most solid in the NFL; in the playoffs both Minnesota quarterback Wade Wilson and Chicago's Jim McMahon had big problems with it. The Vikings were four for 16 on third-down conversions, the Bears four for 14.

But Wyche, who learned his football from Walsh as both a player (in Cincinnati) and as an assistant (in San Francisco), has a unique way of handling nickel defenses. His hurry-up, no-huddle offense has been raising hell with the league office. The current ruling seems to be that Cincinnati can use it.

"There's no question that the hurry-up might gain some advantage for them," says San Francisco defensive coordinator George Seifert. "If you try to match them at running people in and out quickly, you're in a losing battle and you lose concentration. We're better off using a set defense for a situation and sticking with it, no matter who they put on the field."

This means that the 49ers could be caught in one of two unfavorable situations. They could end up with their base 3-4 defense—really a 4-3, because linebacker Charles Haley plays more like a pass-rushing end—against a three- or four-wideout offense. That means linebackers instead of nickelbacks would have to jam and cover the extra receiver in the short zone, though downfield the coverage would basically be the same. Or the Niners could bring in their nickel package on, say, second-and-eight or third-and-six, and find themselves staring at Cincinnati's basic offense—Ickey and the big boys. That would put pressure on San Francisco's "tweener" backs—216-pound strong safety Jeff Fuller and 223-pound rookie safety Greg Cox, who are bigger than defensive backs but smaller than linebackers—to hang in tough as run-stopping linebackers.

If Cincinnati winds up in long-yardage situations, it will be in trouble. During the playoffs the Bengals went back to fundamentals, running for an average of 214.5 yards a game against the Seattle Seahawks and the Bills. There's nothing subtle about the Bengals' ground attack—just three good backs, Woods, Stanley Wilson and James Brooks, banging away behind a massive, zone-blocking

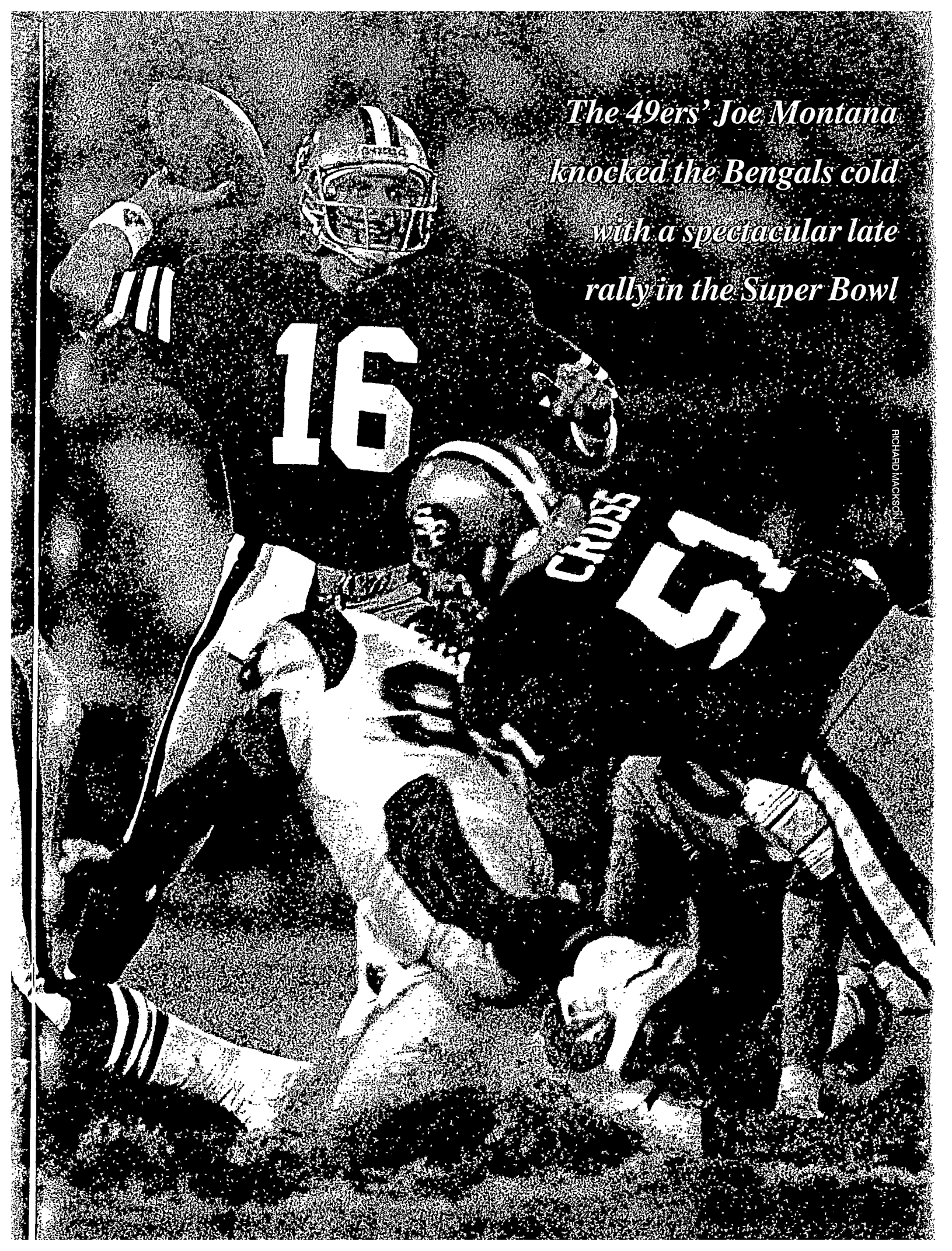
SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

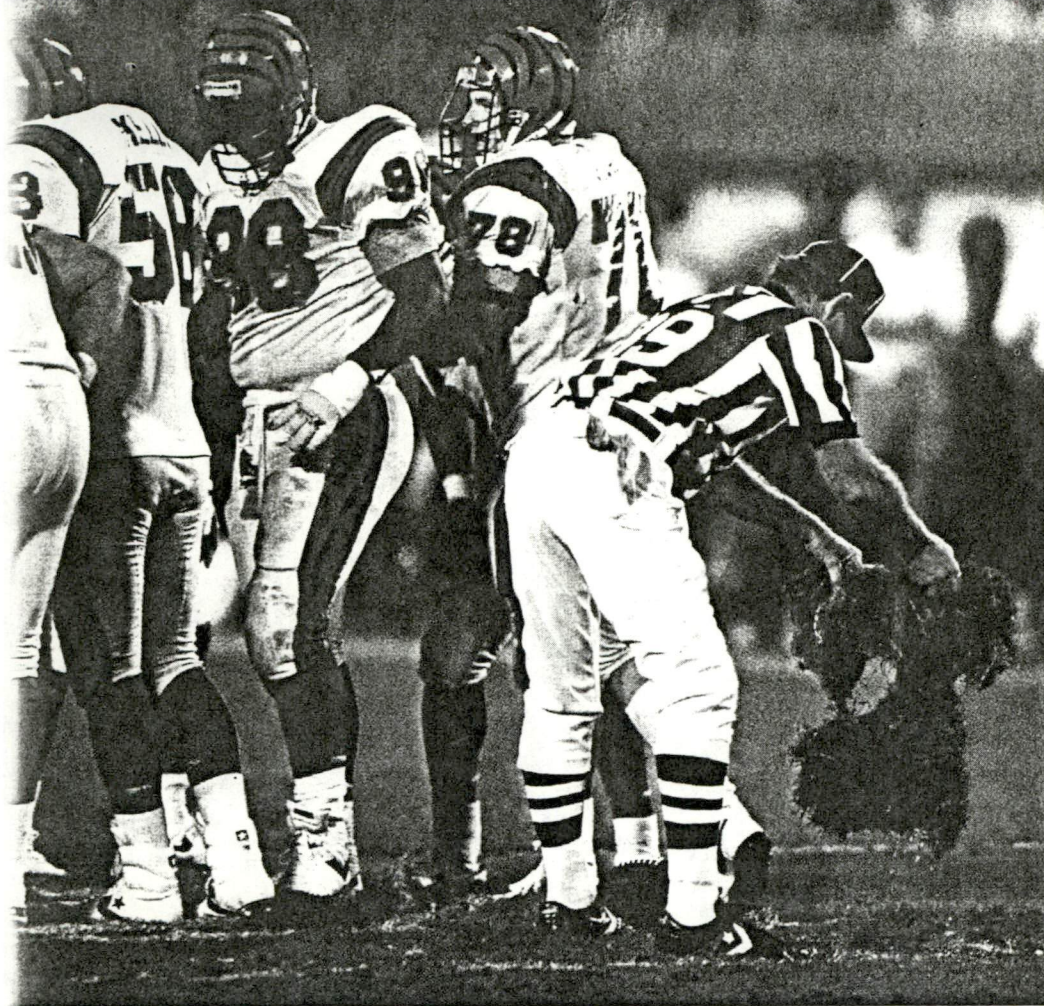


10000 Joe

*The 49ers' Joe Montana
knocked the Bengals cold
with a spectacular late
rally in the Super Bowl*

RICHARD JACKSON





Despite the efforts of officials—and maintenance men—the midfield turf was terrible.

had 10 years from now when we're looking back on it."

The penalty against Cross left San Francisco with second-and-20 on the Bengals' 45, and at this point, Montana admitted, he was "just thinking about getting the field goal that would put the game into overtime." To get in range, he chose a particularly dangerous play, a square-in to Rice. Bengal cornerback Lewis Billups and safety Ray Horton bracketed Rice, and strong safety David Fulcher backed them up. The pass covered 13 yards, but somehow Rice got the ball in the middle of the pack and broke clear for another 14 yards. "It had to be a perfect throw and catch," said Billups. "He had all kinds of hands flashing in front of him."

The ball was on the 18, and then Montana found Craig on an eight-yard crossing pattern, right to left. "Nothing greedy, I just wanted to get some yards," said Craig. Now the 49ers had second-and-two on the 10, and the Bengals went

RICHARD MACKSON

“Montana is not human. I don't want to call him a god, but he's somewhere in between.”

BY PAUL ZIMMERMAN

YOU HEARD IT IN THE PRESS ROOM and in the parking lot as people headed to their cars after watching the San Francisco 49ers beat the Cincinnati Bengals 20-16 in Super Bowl XXIII. You heard it in the bars in downtown Miami and on the streets. What you heard was something you seldom hear in connection with the Super Bowl, which has almost become a parody of itself: "Great game . . . great game . . . hey, that was some game, wasn't it?"

A great game? The final quarter was certainly great—the best in Super Bowl history—but for almost 45 minutes it wasn't a great game at all. It was a screwup game played against the depressing backdrop of a city torn by riots and flames.

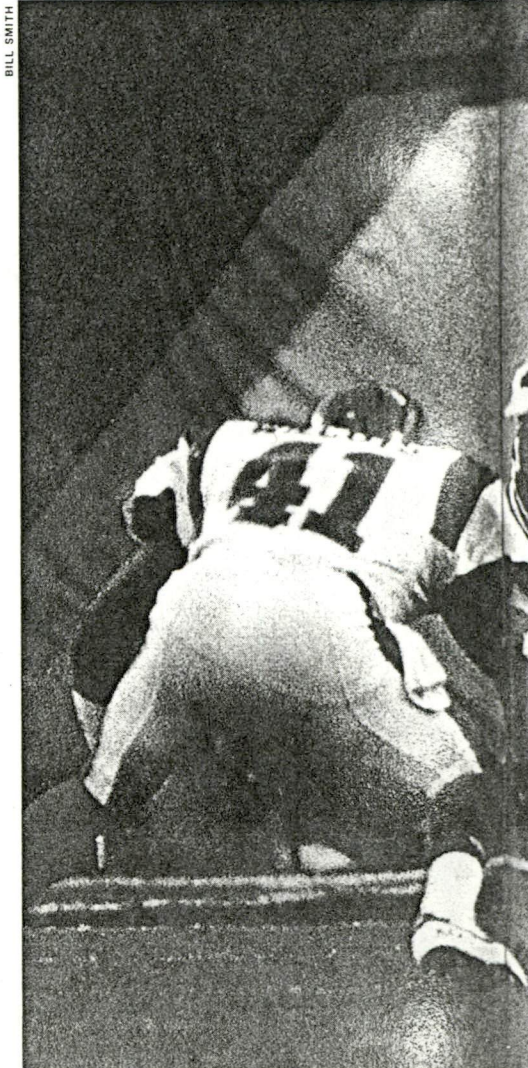
Then Joe Montana, who saves his best performances for the biggest games, stepped in and rescued this Super Bowl. So did Jerry Rice and Roger Craig. The cream rose. San Francisco marched 92

yards in the dying moments to pull out the win, and, yes, Montana and center Randy Cross, the only two of Sunday's 49ers who had been on the field for the great winning drive against the Cowboys in the 1982 NFC championship, said this victory brought back memories of that Dallas game, which until now had been the finest moment in Niner history.

The climax this time had no play to match the breathtaking touchdown catch Dwight Clark made against the Cowboys. Instead, it had lots of good ones. The first crisis of the drive came on the ninth play, with the Niners trailing 16-13 and facing second-and-10 on the Cincinnati 35. Cross committed his third boo-boo of the day—he was caught downfield on a fouled-up pass that started as a screen but ended as a dump-off to Craig.

"Holding, bad snap, downfield, I did it all today, didn't I?" Cross said. "But you'll be amazed at what a great game I

All in a day's work, huh Andy?



THOMAS THIL

S U P E R B O W L

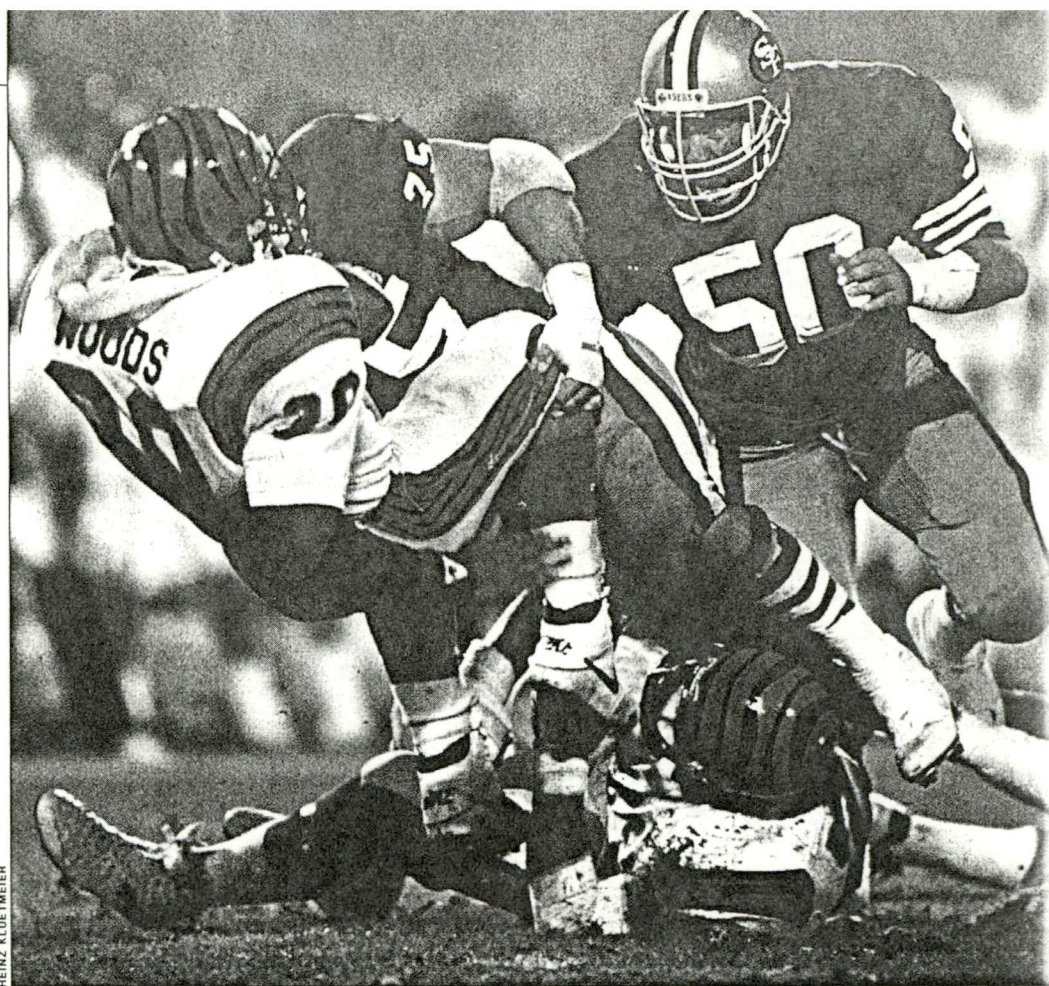
into a two-deep zone: short and medium coverage on Rice on the right side, the same on split end John Taylor on the left. The book calls for man-to-man in this situation, but zone coverage was what Cincy did best.

The play was 20 Halfback Curl X-Up. Rice went in motion to the left, passing behind Taylor before the ball was snapped, and decoyed into the left flat. Craig, who curled into the middle from the right, was the primary receiver, but he got jammed up in traffic. Taylor put on a little wiggle move and ran straight down the seam. Montana hit him in stride, inside Horton's coverage, and the Niners had their third Super Bowl win in eight years. Only the Pittsburgh Steelers, who have won four, have more Super Bowl victories.

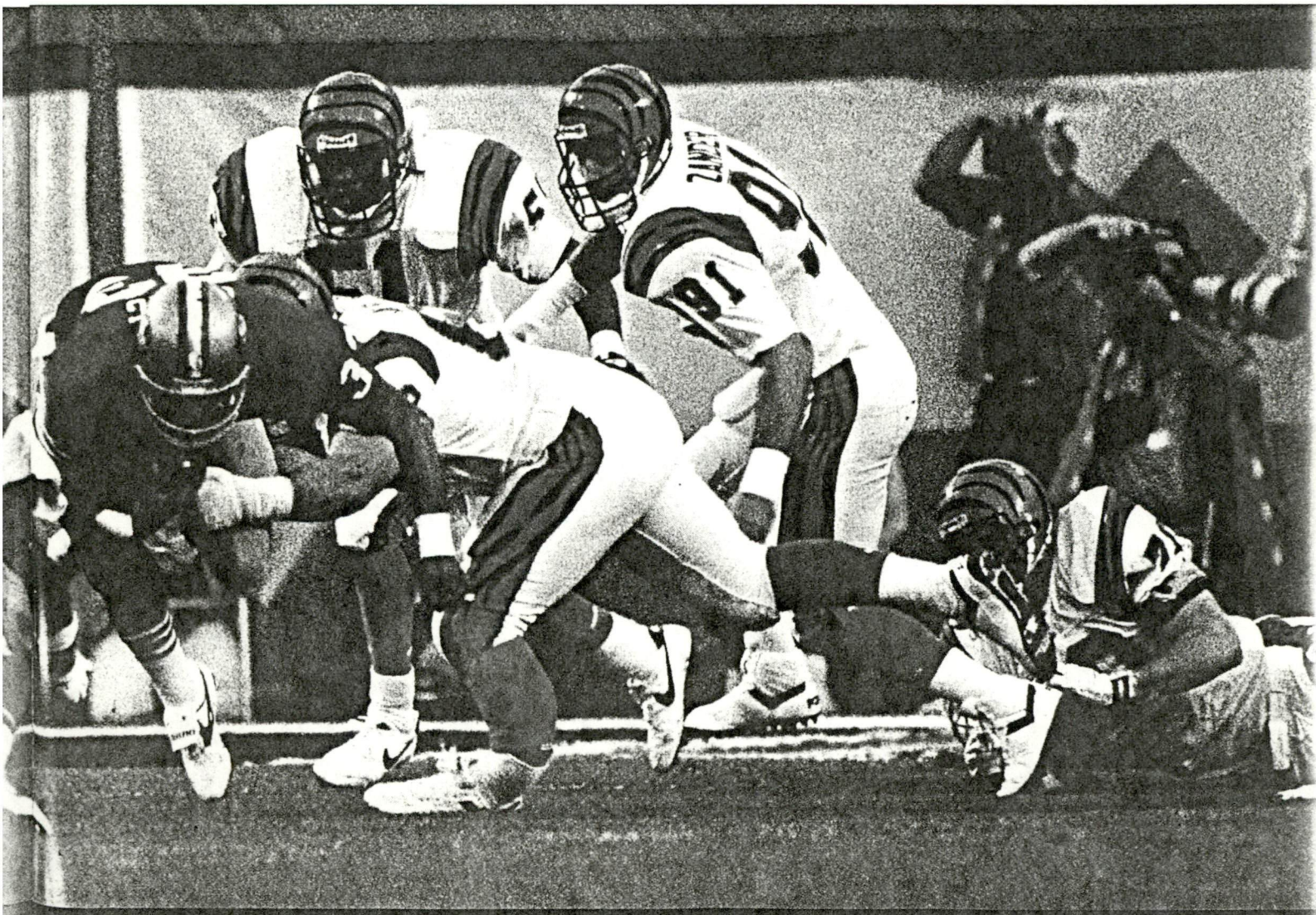
"That's Joe Montana," said Cross. "Primary receiver's covered, he goes to the No. 2 man, just like that—reflex."

Montana completed eight of nine

Bengal disappointment: Woods ran for only 79 yards; Bengal disaster (below): Krumrie broke two bones in his leg as he hit Craig.



HEINZ KLUETMEIER



passes on the drive for 97 yards. Counting the 10-yard penalty, the 49ers ate up 102 yards on the march. Montana finished with 23 completions in 36 attempts for a Super Bowl-record 357 yards. In three Super Bowls he has thrown 93 passes without an interception, and his 65.6 completion percentage is the highest in the game's history.

Rice, whose 11 catches tied one Super Bowl record and whose 215 yards broke another, was voted the game's MVP. Coowards wouldn't have been a bad idea.

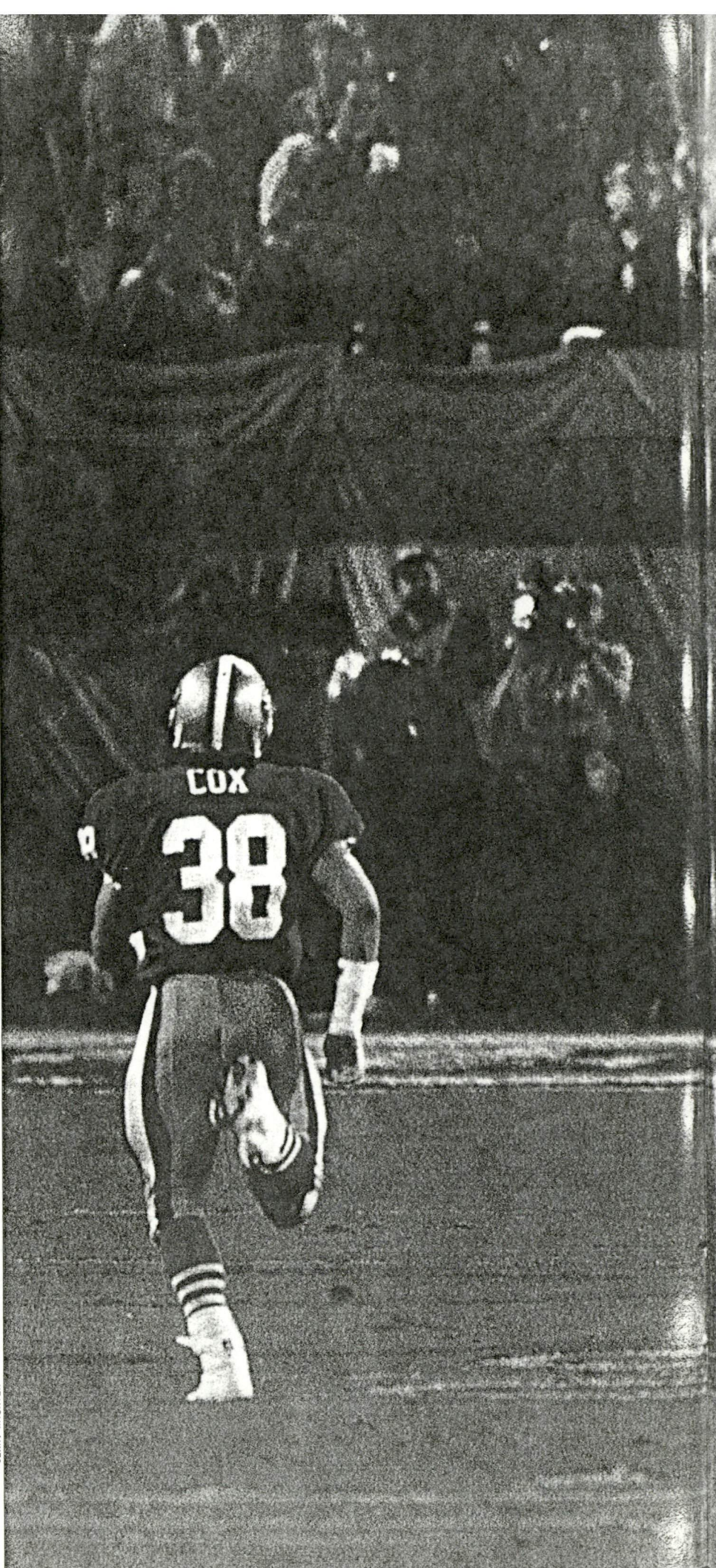
In the winning locker room, cornerback Eric Wright dumped a bucket of ice water on Niner owner Eddie DeBartolo, and tight end John Frank lifted DeBartolo off the ground in a bear hug and carried him 10 feet, bonking DeBartolo's head on defensive end Larry Roberts's locker. Even NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle was caught up in the euphoria: "Eddie DeBartolo, coach Bill Walsh, you and the great Cincinnati team gave us the finest of our 23 Super Bowls. I don't think there is any question about that."

You could feel the relief dripping off Rozelle's words. For two days early in the week Miami had been a very bad scene. On the night of Monday, Jan. 16, in the predominantly black section of Overtown, a policeman shot and killed a speeding black motorcyclist. Another black man, a passenger on the motorcycle, would die a day later from injuries suffered when the bike crashed. All hell broke loose in Overtown, and the next night the rioting spread to Liberty City, another black area (see page 9).

On the fringes of this madness stood the Super Bowl. The 49ers were billeted at the Miami Airport Hilton and Marina, a showy place eight miles from the rioting and at the end of a half-mile drive bordering a lagoon. Brightly plumed parrots greeted visitors at the door. But the Bengals, who were staying at the Omni International Hotel downtown, were only half a dozen blocks from Overtown. They could see the fires from their rooms. They were advised to stay indoors. "I feel like I'm being held hostage," said strength coach Kim Wood.

Super Bowl week, with its lush parties

Some present, baby: Jennings sped 93 yards with a kick return in honor of his newborn.



JERRY WACHTER



Larry Roberts didn't get Esiason on this play, but Boomer went down five other times.

and endless interview sessions, had become a bad joke. "What's going on out there is life," said Cincinnati quarterback Boomer Esiason. "It makes you ask yourself, 'What does football really matter?'"

The inevitable question was asked: Was the NFL right in secluding its most glamorous representatives from the turmoil around them, or should the league have recruited some players to try to temper the violence through appearances and appeals? "It's no place for the NFL or its players," said Bengal guard Max Montoya. "It's a deeply rooted problem for the city, a lot deeper than football. I don't think you can throw an NFL blanket over it and try to calm it

down. They don't know us. When you're talking about a life-and-death situation, an NFL badge isn't going to mean much."

"Frankly I was waiting to be asked, and I would have welcomed the chance to do something to help," said Frank. "It just shows how skewed our values are, how much we isolate pro football. Every year, though, you see guys busted when the game is over for them, guys with no place to go. Yes, I'd have wanted to help. Maybe I was the wrong person for it, being white, but I know there are black guys on our team like Eric Wright and Keena Turner and Roger Craig who would have done something."

Someone asked Frank if it was really logical to expect players to tear themselves away from preparing for something that was, to them, the most signifi-

cant event of the year, maybe of their careers, especially with coaches constantly hammering away about the need to maintain concentration.

"Maybe not toward the end of the week," Frank said, "but in the beginning it wouldn't have mattered."

Even the football aspects of the week had a downside—the lingering rumor that this would be Niner coach Bill Walsh's last game, the hints that league officials were planning to tone down Cincy coach Sam Wyche's no-huddle offense and, finally, the Sunday morning announcement from the NFL that the Bengals' backup fullback, Stanley Wilson, a key man in their short-yardage offense, had been suspended from the game because of a drug violation (see page 9). The game started with two strikes against it, and it clearly would

take a memorable evening to erase the negatives.

The first half didn't help. San Francisco's left tackle, Steve Wallace, broke his left ankle on the third play. On the 49ers' next series, Cincinnati's All-Pro noseguard and defensive leader, Tim Krumrie, twisted his left ankle almost 180 degrees as he fell to the turf, shattering two bones in the lower leg. The center of the field at Joe Robbie Stadium, which had been resodded five weeks before the game, was miserable. Big clumps of turf came up. Teams of red-shirted maintenance men ran out during timeouts to try to tamp down the loose sod.

"The field right around the NFL emblem was horrendous," said Esiason. "It was worse than Cleveland Stadium, and that's saying a lot. I mean, there were huge holes out there."

"Oh, the turf was gorgeous," said

Cross. "A full two inches of root system, and that's being generous."

The Niners put together a 73-yard drive in the first quarter that ended with three incomplete passes and a 41-yard field goal. On their next possession they made it to the Cincinnati two, where they faced fourth-and-a-yard. Walsh played the percentages and went for the field goal. The 19-yard attempt was botched when Cross's snap was low. "When we got behind in the second half I was thinking that maybe we should have gone for it," Walsh said, "but it was just a little too far."

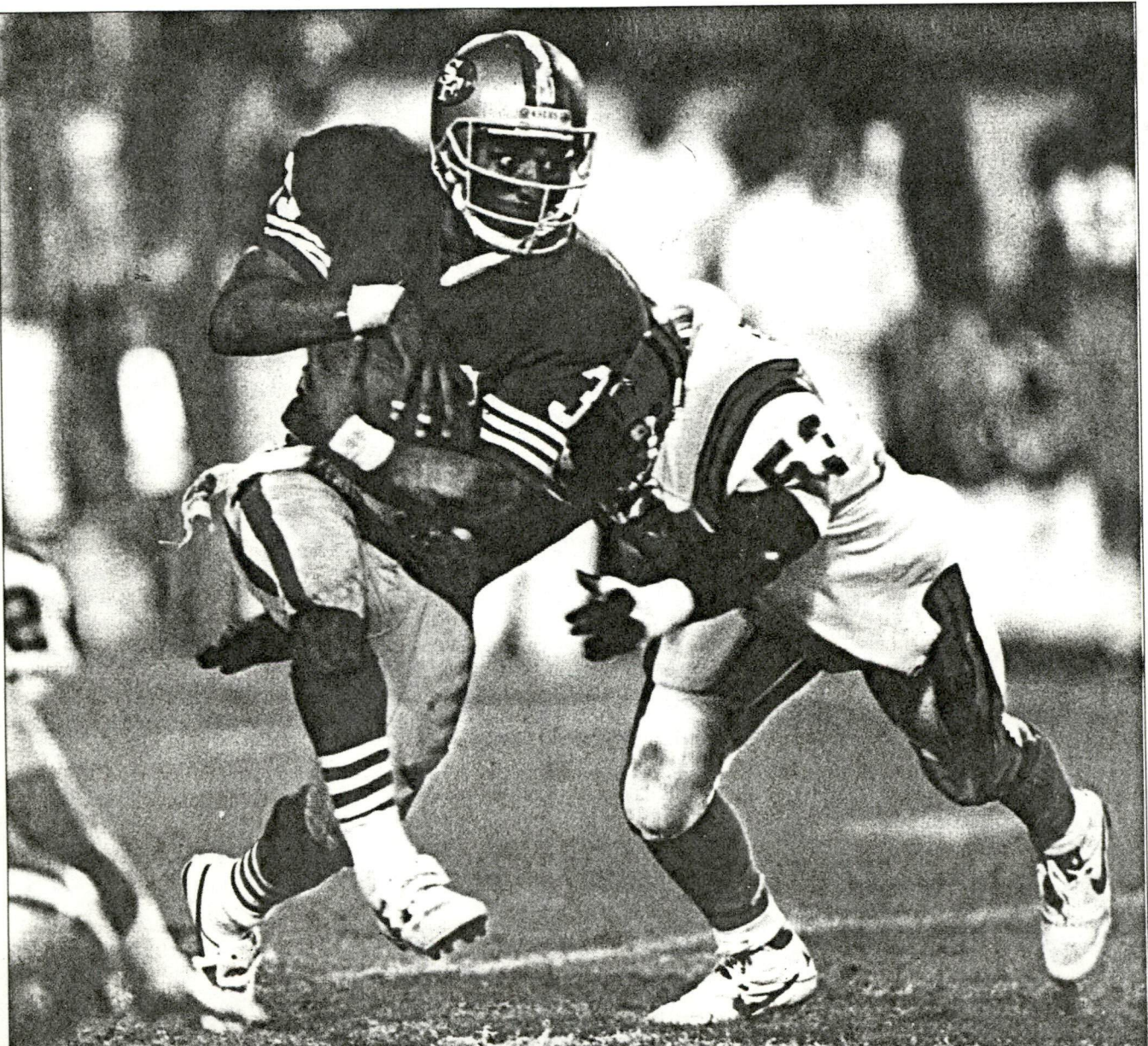
Toward the end of the first half, Cincinnati got the ball on San Francisco's 44, drove to the Niners' 16 and kicked a 34-yard field goal. The half ended with the score tied 3-3. Not since the Pittsburgh Steelers led the Minnesota Vikings 2-0 in Super Bowl IX had so few points been scored in the first half.

So far it wasn't much of a game. The defenses were showing some spirit, but with the exception of Rice, the big-name offensive stars were coming up short. Montana's numbers were O.K.—9 completions in 16 attempts for 114 yards—but he had no rhythm. He seemed to be pressing. Nothing was smooth. Walsh's pregame fears—a mobile, stunting Cincinnati defense backed up by an exotic blitzing scheme that featured Fulcher—were coming true. "I see two well-conceived offenses putting on a high-level show," said Walsh the night before the game, "but underneath there's a haunting feeling that their line stunts might catch us wrong. They could happen to hit us, but the odds say that shouldn't happen."

Craig had rushed for 52 yards, but he

Craig handled the ball on half the plays during San Francisco's game-winning TD drive.

JOHN BIEVER



His standard is having feet 3 1/2 feet off the ground to make a catch, but Jerry Rice extends that if necessary.

Rice Is Dashing, On Field or Off

PHOTO BY BILL FOX/SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

RICE, From C1

Sunday's Super Bowl is a timely forum for Rice. He owns no national endorsements to speak of, yet he was the 1987 NFL most valuable player and set a league record with 22 touchdown catches—in 12 games, no less. This season, a twisted ankle has reduced his vertical leap by an inch or two and his touchdown total by 13, but he is expected to be Sunday's most important player, a measuring stick of 49ers success. "Miami Rice" is the way teammates put it.

Rice developed his pass receiving prowess by tossing and catching bricks from his father, who layed them for a living in miss-it-if-you-blink Crawford, Miss.

Crawford is so small that Rice claims he's from Starkville. The youngest of eight kids, he might never have found football if he hadn't skipped a high school class one day and run from the vice principal who spotted him. The vice principal, so amazed by Rice's speed through the school halls, gave him a choice—detention or football—and Rice chose the obvious.

Destiny then took him to Mississippi Valley State, a school in the town of Itta Bena that had five footballs to its name. Pretty soon, Rice was one of five wide receivers in the starting lineup, and he twice caught five touchdowns in a single game. Against Kentucky State, he had 24 catches for 294 yards, probably because the defense didn't have enough safeties and cornerbacks to cover the four other wideouts and also double-team Rice.

The ahead-of-its-time offense was the brainchild of coach Archie Cooley—now at Arkansas-Pine Bluff—who never did see the reason for a tight end or running back. Cooley would direct four wide receivers to one side of the field with two on the line of scrimmage and two in single file behind them. At the snap, they'd dart every which way.

Rice would line up by his lonesome on the opposite side—usually against man-to-man coverage—and do whatever he wished, which frequently was to score touchdowns. One team, Tex-

RICE IN PLAYOFFS

| Games | Catches | Yards | TD |
|-------|---------|-------|----|
| 2 | 10 | 194 | 5 |

as Southern, countered with a rather unorthodox 2-1-8 defensive set (two linemen, one linebacker and eight in the secondary). Cooley put the run back in his offense that day, Carl Byrum rushing for 243 yards in an easy victory.

Of course, this offense demanded a good quarterback, and Cooley had Willie Totten, who once went 45 for 60 for 599 yards against Prairie View. Totten now plays Arena Football and helps coach at Grambling in his free time.

"I'd say Willie is almost like [Cleveland's Bernie] Kosar," Rice said last week. "He likes to deliver the ball sidarm, and when I look at Kosar, I think of Willie Totten." Rice also thinks about Totten when he sees the Cincinnati Bengals' hurry-up offense, which is what Cooley ran in college. Legend is Cooley was jogging with an assistant coach, James Norwood, one day, and Norwood said, "Coach, why do we need to huddle?"

"Because everybody huddles," Cooley answered.

"Why?" Norwood said. "All we do is call the play in the huddle, and then we change that on the line most of the time."

This soon evolved into a hurry-up that wasn't quite as sophisticated as Sam Wyche's. For instance, when Totten put his hands to his head like he was confused, that meant everybody go deep.

So, some teams saw a lot of Rice in college, even though NFL scouts didn't. He fell to the 16th pick in the 1985 first round, though he has claimed time and again he would've gone first overall if he'd played in the Big Ten. Regardless, he looks back fondly at Mississippi Valley, where he learned to be a neat freak.

"In high school, my room was a mess," Rice said. "Everything was everywhere, clothes everywhere. Hard to find anything in there. But my whole lifestyle changed in col-

lege. I wanted to be neat. I felt it was the only way I could relax."

What has developed is a most meticulous fellow. "My wife might be thinking about divorcing me," he said.

Incidentally, Totten called Rice the other day to wish him luck today against the Bengals, and Totten must have noticed a change. In Mississippi, it was correct to say, "I done had a good game," but few in San Francisco related to that, and Rice sensed their tension immediately. He and his agent arranged a meeting with Sylvester Jackson, a Berkeley-based radio director, to improve Rice's diction.

"It's not that I'm trying to make him Bryant Gumbel," Jackson said last week, but he has aided and abetted the Rice persona, which includes GQ fabrics and every hair in place. To make statements of his individuality, Rice has tried other hairstyles besides the Fifi, including the Grace Jones raised flattop. "But my teammates said I looked like a golf tee," he said.

Jackson has advised that Rice, after a game, be perfectly and completely dressed before doing interviews, with the persona in mind. So, after the recent Minnesota play-off game Rice—after catching three touchdowns—calmly and silently left his locker for the bathroom mirror while 25 reporters followed him single-file.

As a 49ers rookie, he wasn't as refined, and he even dropped passes, which was an accomplishment with hands as large as his. His college nickname had been, "World," because, he says "I caught everything in the world." But as a rookie, he'd been uncomfortable with the adjustment, and the drops were a symptom. All that has since passed.

The Bengals remember him well. In a regular season game in 1987, the 49ers trailed Cincinnati by six with two seconds left and lined up in the old Mississippi Valley set—three wides to one side, Rice to the other. And when the Bengals sent only one man to cover him, Rice flashed back to Willie Totten. But Joe Montana would do, and when the ball arched his way in the end zone, Rice jumped his usual 3 1/2 feet and gripped it. Footballs are easier to catch than bricks.

Washington Redskins quarterback coach Dan Henning appears the leading candidate. According to sources, Schottenheimer and Chargers officials could not come to an agreement because Schottenheimer demanded all of his Browns assistants be hired with him.

As for Henning, he interviewed with General Manager Steve Ortmayer Wednesday night and reportedly impressed Ortmayer enough to become the top candidate. However, Ortmayer is believed to be in no rush to make a decision and is expected to visit with other potential prospects, one being San Francisco defensive coordinator George Seifert, who isn't available until after the Super Bowl—if then.

Room With a View

The ABC-TV affiliate in Tampa, WTSP-TV, apparently succeeded in filming part of a San Francisco workout at the University of Miami, and showed it on the air. Supposedly, the station paid a student \$40 to use a dormitory room with a view. A television crew from Sacramento was chased off the roof of a fraternity house within sight of the practice field . . .

Alan Frank, father of 49ers tight end John Frank, is serving time in a Pennsylvania prison for tax evasion and probably won't be able to see the end of Sunday's game because television sets must be shut off promptly at 8 p.m., and the Super Bowl will probably run past 8:30, because kickoff isn't scheduled to begin until shortly after 5 p.m. . . . The 49ers, already staying at a relatively quiet hotel/marina, kept their original headquarters for the night before the game, while the Bengals moved out of their downtown hotel to be closer to Joe Robbie Stadium . . .

The 49ers activated defensive end Jeff Stover, in place of former Redskins cornerback Tory Nixon, hampered by an injured hamstring for weeks . . . Bill

NOTE: Total amount awarded to personnel of Super Bowl teams this year: approximately \$2.6 million.
SOURCE: KRTN Graphics Network; NFL

Walsh's final word on his team being seven-point favorites: "We don't come strutting into this game." . . .

Steve Young, the 49ers' backup quarterback, on wanting to play but knowing the team will rely on Joe Montana: "I'm hopeful for another opportunity this week. But one of the great lessons you learn about playing football is that you live and die and thrive as a team. If it's not that way, then you should play golf." . . . Paul Brown, the Bengals' vice president, has never won a Super Bowl but his progeny have won 10: Chuck Noll, four; Don Shula, two; Bill Walsh, two; Weeb Ewbank and Don McCafferty, one each.

Not Out of the Woods Yet

The Bengals' rookie running star, Ickey Woods, who has been writing a daily column for the Cincinnati Post, responded in print to San Francisco cornerback Tim McKyer's brag that the 49ers will win in a breeze.

"I'm sure McKyer, or whatever his name is, is a competitive ballplayer," Woods wrote. "I don't dislike him because he says that. A lot of guys have to talk mess in order to play their ball game. Myself, I just go out there and play. I don't think you need to be a big mouth."

"The thing that does get on my nerves is when people try to predict the score. When I look in the paper and see '49ers 38-14 over the Bengals,' it makes me just want to throw up."

"I don't think the 49ers are going to beat us that bad. If they do beat us, they're going to just barely edge us . . ."

BENGALS OPPONENTS

REGULAR SEASON

| Game | Opponent | Outcome | Opp. Rec. |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. | Phoenix | Won, 21-14 | 7-9 |
| 2. | at Philadelphia | Won, 28-24 | 10-6 |
| 3. | at Pittsburgh | Won, 17-12 | 5-11 |
| 4. | Cleveland | Won, 24-17 | 10-6 |
| 5. | at L.A. Raiders | Won, 45-21 | 7-9 |
| 6. | N.Y. Jets | Won, 36-19 | 8-7-1 |
| 7. | at New England | Lost, 27-21 | 9-7 |
| 8. | Houston | Won, 44-21 | 10-6 |
| 9. | at Cleveland | Lost, 23-16 | 10-6 |
| 10. | Pittsburgh | Won, 42-7 | 5-11 |
| 11. | at Kansas City | Lost, 31-28 | 4-11-1 |
| 12. | at Dallas | Won, 38-24 | 3-13 |
| 13. | Buffalo | Won, 35-21 | 12-4 |
| 14. | San Diego | Won, 27-10 | 6-10 |
| 15. | at Houston | Lost, 41-6 | 10-6 |
| 16. | Washington | Won, 20-17 | 7-9 |
| AFC Opponents | | 8-4 | 96-94-2 |
| NFC Opponents | | 4-0 | 27-37 |
| Totals | | 12-4 | 123-131-2 |

PLAYOFFS

| Game | Opponent | Outcome | Opp. Rec. |
|--------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| 17. | Seattle | Won, 21-13 | 9-7 |
| 18. | Buffalo | Won, 21-10 | 12-4 |
| Playoff tot. | | 2-0 | 21-11 |

SOURCE: Laura Kreuzer; NFL

49ERS OPPONENTS

REGULAR SEASON

| Game | Opponent | Outcome | Opp. Rec. |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. | at New Orleans | Won, 34-33 | 10-6 |
| 2. | at N.Y. Giants | Won, 20-17 | 10-6 |
| 3. | Atlanta | Lost, 34-17 | 5-11 |
| 4. | at Seattle | Won, 38-7 | 9-7 |
| 5. | Detroit | Won, 20-13 | 4-12 |
| 6. | Denver | Lost, 16-13 | 8-8 |
| 7. | at L.A. Rams | Won, 24-21 | 10-6 |
| 8. | at Chicago | Lost, 10-9 | 12-4 |
| 9. | Minnesota | Won, 24-21 | 11-5 |
| 10. | at Phoenix | Lost, 24-23 | 7-9 |
| 11. | L.A. Raiders | Lost, 9-3 | 6-5 |
| 12. | Washington | Won, 37-21 | 7-9 |
| 13. | at San Diego | Won, 48-10 | 6-10 |
| 14. | at Atlanta | Won, 13-3 | 5-11 |
| 15. | New Orleans | Won, 30-17 | 10-6 |
| 16. | LA Rams | Lost, 38-16 | 10-6 |
| AFC Opponents | | 2-2 | 30-34 |
| NFC Opponents | | 8-4 | 101-91 |
| Totals | | 10-6 | 131-122 |

PLAYOFFS

| Game | Opponent | Outcome | Opp. Rec. |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 17. | Minnesota | Won, 34-9 | 11-5 |
| 18. | at Chicago | Won, 28-3 | 12-4 |
| Playoff tot. | | 2-0 | 23-9 |

SOURCE: Laura Kreuzer; NFL

Fast Hands Put