



**RICH SEILS**  
Cap Hex Breaker?

# Upswing Otters Set Cap Ambush

**By John Sanders**  
*Dispatch Sports Writer*

Two football teams headed in opposite directions collide at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in Westerville, when Capital invades arch rival Otterbein's Memorial Stadium.

The Otters haven't beaten Capital since 1963, but they've won seven of their last eight starts over the past two seasons and have yet to be scored upon in 1975.

Capital, on the other hand,

fell apart in a 28-14 loss to Marietta in last week's home opener after a successful 16-7 start at Heidelberg.

Coach Gene Slaughter called the Marietta debacle one of his teams' worst performances in the 15 years he's been head coach at his alma mater.

**OTTERBEIN**, under first-year Head Coach Rich Seils, has blanked Manchester, Ind. (26-0) and Kenyon (24-0). It's the first time since 1946 an

Otterbein team has shut out two consecutive foes.

Capital, without question, is a stronger team than either Manchester or Kenyon. But Slaughter had better regroup his forces in short order to continue his success against the school's Franklin County neighbor.

The veteran members of this year's Cardinal edition will remember bitter pills Cap forced the Otters to

swallow the past two autumns.

Cap fullback Mike Opalka scored on a four-yard burst through left tackle with 3:10 remaining to pull out a 16-13 Crusader victory last fall at Bernlohr Stadium, after a 19-yard Joe Duffy field goal in the final 41 seconds at Otterbein Stadium proved the difference in a 9-7 Cap win in 1973.

**"WHEN CAP and Otter-**

bein get together, Cap is always as tough as nails," said Seils, adding:

"When you win by two shutouts, you have to be happy with the defense, but we're still trying to find ourselves offensively.

"We will have to establish our running game against Capital."

Injuries to experienced interior linemen Tom Woodyard (ankle) and Mike Basha

(shoulder) have caused some shuffling along the offensive line and slowed the ground attack.

As a result, says Seils: "We've thrown the ball more (50 times) than we'd like to and we're still attempting to replace (graduated) Steve Schnarr at fullback."

**IF WOODYARD** (injured in See **UNBEATEN** on Page D-2



**GENE SLAUGHTER**  
Has Hold On Otter

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