

FRISCO BOWL
SAN DIEGO STATE VS OHIO

FRISCO, Texas -- Ohio running back A.J. Ouellette doesn't think of Frank Solich as the oldest head coach in FBS. He sees him as the guy who stuck around a smaller program long enough to run it for going on 15 years.

Ouellette gave Solich and the Bobcats a little something to build on in his final game.

The senior had his fourth straight 100-yard game with 164 yards rushing, quarterback Nathan Rourke accounted for all three touchdowns and Ohio rolled to a 27-0 victory over San Diego State in the drizzly Frisco Bowl on Wednesday night.

Ohio (9-4) finished with six wins in seven games and won a second straight bowl game under Solich, who became the oldest head coach in FBS at 74 before bowl season when 79-year-old Bill Snyder retired at Kansas State.

"To have him a little older than most coaches, young coaches are at a school a couple of years and they leave," said Ouellette, who finished among Ohio's career rushing leaders with 3,784 yards. "Him being there 14 years, we've just been lucky that he stayed around."

Solich spent 19 years on Tom Osborne's staff at Nebraska before replacing the coach at his alma mater in 1998.

After six years in charge of the Cornhuskers, Solich was forced out following a 9-3 season, a year after a 7-7 record that ended a streak of 40 straight winning seasons. A year later, he took the Ohio job and has taken the Bobcats to 10 bowls in 14 seasons.

"I feel like I still have a lot of energy," Solich said. "I still feel like I communicate well with players and coaches. I'm not feeling like the oldest coach, at least not tonight."

San Diego State was shut out in a bowl for the first time since its first postseason appearance -- a 53-0 loss to Hardin-Simmons in the 1948 Harbor Bowl at long-since-demolished Balboa Stadium in San Diego.

The Aztecs had 44 of their 287 yards on one run by Juwan Washington while losing a fourth straight game in a season for the first time in eight years under coach Rocky Long. The fourth-best run defense in FBS gave up a season-high 215 yards rushing to Ohio.

San Diego State's first meeting with Ohio was its first loss in 15 games against Mid-American Conference teams. The 27-point margin ended a streak of 10 straight games decided by single digits for the Aztecs, which the school said was the longest such streak since at least 1980.

"I think you have to look at everything you do, from the top on down," Long said. "We can delve into this as deep as you want. And we're evaluating everything in our program. And it might be nothing but we don't have one big-time player. That might be the difference."

THE TAKEAWAY

San Diego State: Long is one of five current coaches to lead his team to a bowl in each of his first eight seasons. The Aztecs, who have been to nine straight bowls, are 3-5 in the postseason under Long with consecutive losses in the Dallas area. Army was a 42-35 winner in last year's Armed Forces Bowl in Fort Worth.

Ohio: The Bobcats have a 1-1 postseason record in Texas, getting even 56 years after losing to West Texas State 15-14 in the school's first bowl appearance in the 1962 Sun Bowl in El Paso. The school's only other game in Texas was in nearby Denton, a 31-30 double-overtime win against North Texas in 2009.

ROURKE'S TOUCHDOWNS

Light rain that fell throughout the first half didn't seem to bother Rourke. The junior fooled the entire San Diego State defense with a fake handoff to Ouellette and ran untouched 9 yards around left end to cap a 15-play drive for a 10-0 lead in the second quarter.

Rourke's other scoring run was from 11 yards before halftime, and he threw a 35-yard TD to a wide-open Andrew Meyer near the goal line on a flea-flicker from Ouellette in the fourth quarter. Rourke was 10 of 22 for 206 yards passing with 44 yards rushing.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
SDSU	0	0	0	0	0
OHIO	3	14	3	7	27

Scoring Summary -----

	SDSU	OHIO
FIRST QUARTER		
OHIO FG 2:20 Louie Zervos 30 Yd Field Goal 12 plays, 66 yards, 6:50	0	3
SECOND QUARTER		
OHIO TD 7:57 Nathan Rourke 9 Yd Run (Louie Zervos Kick) 15 plays, 72 yards, 6:55	0	10
OHIO TD 0:07 Nathan Rourke 11 Yd Run (Louie Zervos Kick) 5 plays, 43 yards, 0:54	0	17
THIRD QUARTER		
OHIO FG 11:33 Louie Zervos 26 Yd Field Goal 7 plays, 66 yards, 3:27	0	20
FOURTH QUARTER		
OHIO TD 12:41 Andrew Meyer 35 Yd pass from Nathan Rourke (Louie Zervos Kick) 4 plays, 56 yards, 2:02	0	27

Team Stats

	SDSU	OHIO
First Downs	18	21
Fourth Down Efficiency	2-3	2-2
Total Yards	287	421
Total Plays	62	62
Avg Gain Per Play	4.6	6.8
Net Yards Rushing	153	215
Rushes	36	40
Yards Per Rush	4.3	5.4
Net Yards Passing	134	206
Comp-Att	12-26	10-22
Yards Per Pass	5.2	9.4
Times Sacked	3	1
Yds Lost To Sacks	-19	-1
Interceptions	1	1
Punts	5	1
Punt Average	38.4	37.0
Penalties	4	0
Penalty Yards	35	0
Fumbles	3	3
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Possession	28:23	31:37

Individual Stats

RUSHING

SDSU	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
29 Juwan Washington	19	129	6.8	44	0
10 Christian Chapman	5	14	2.8	9	0
26 Kaegun Williams	1	11	11.0	11	0
9 Ryan Agnew	7	10	1.4	9	0
15 Jordan Byrd	1	3	3.0	3	0
7 Fred Trevillion	3	-14	-4.7	1	0

OHIO

	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
45 A.J. Ouellette	29	164	5.7	15	0
12 Nathan Rourke	9	44	4.9	13	2
4 Papi White	1	14	14.0	14	0

PASSING

SDSU	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
9 Ryan Agnew	11	24	126	5.3	0	1	81.6
10 Christian Chapman	1	2	8	4.0	0	0	83.6

OHIO	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
12 Nathan Rourke	10	22	206	9.4	1	1	130.0

RECEIVING

SDSU	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
13 Isaiah Richardson	3	58	19.3	30	0
92 Kobe Smith	2	25	12.5	18	0
82 Parker Houston	2	15	7.5	11	0
29 Juwan Washington	3	14	4.7	8	0
96 Elijah Kothe	1	12	12.0	12	0
88 Daniel Bellinger	1	10	10.0	10	0

OHIO

	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
4 Papi White	4	90	22.5	54	0
9 Andrew Meyer	2	60	30.0	35	1
45 A.J. Ouellette	2	33	16.5	18	0
3 Cameron Odum	1	14	14.0	14	0
83 Connor Brown	1	9	9.0	9	0