

WEEK FIVE
NORTHWESTERN at WISCONSIN

Taylor, defense lead No. 8 Badgers past Northwestern 24-15

MADISON, Wis. -- Jonathan Taylor ran for 119 yards and his 11th touchdown of the season, Wisconsin got two scores from its defense, and the eighth-ranked Badgers remained unbeaten with a 24-15 win over Northwestern on Saturday.

Taylor carried 26 times to help Wisconsin (4-0, 2-0 Big Ten) avenge its 31-17 loss to the Wildcats last season. The junior reached 100 yards rushing for the 26th time in 31 career games and moved into fourth place on the Badgers' career rushing list (4,730).

After allowing 81 yards rushing through the first three games, the Wisconsin defense surrendered 97 yards on the ground to Northwestern (1-3, 0-2).

The Badgers' defense sacked backup quarterback Aidan Smith once and starter Hunter Johnson three times, including one by safety Eric Burrell that caused a fumble by Johnson in the end zone. Matt Henningsen recovered to make it 14-3 in the third quarter for Wisconsin. Noah Burks added the other after intercepting Smith and returning it 68 yards down the Wisconsin sideline.

Johnson went 10-for-21 and Smith completed 8 of 19 passes and had a late 15-yard touchdown to JJ Jefferson. Drake Anderson had 16 carries for 69 yards and a 4-yard score for the defending Big Ten West champion Wildcats, who dropped their second straight game conference game.

Charlie Kuhbander added a 29-yard field goal for Northwestern.

Chris Orr had two sacks and Collin Wilder added another for a Badgers' defense that is allowing just 7.3 points per game through the first four contests.

THE TAKEAWAY

Northwestern: Defensively, the Wildcats, like last season, made it hard for the Wisconsin offense. But a loose offensive line and a lack of production at the quarterback position will continue to haunt the Wildcats' offense.

Wisconsin: Jack Coan won his sixth straight start, but needed the Badgers' defense to have a big day to overcome a lackluster day. The defense responded, as Coan finished 15-for-21 with 113 yards and an interception by Northwestern defensive back JR Pace.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

With one of the top running backs in the history of college football and a stout defense, No. 8 Wisconsin continues to prove it is one of the top teams in the country and deserves to be on the short list of teams that can seriously contend for a spot in the College Football Playoff.

TOP-10 BADGERS

Wisconsin now has won five straight against Northwestern when ranked in the top 10 of The Associated Press Top 25 poll .

Final	1	2	3	4	T
NW	3	0	0	12	15
WIS	7	0	7	10	24

Scoring Summary -----

	NW	WIS
FIRST QUARTER		
WIS TD 9:16 Jonathan Taylor 13 Yd Run (Collin Larsh Kick)		
10 plays, 54 yards, 5:44	0	7
NW FG 1:37 Charlie Kuhbander 29 Yd Field Goal		
10 plays, 83 yards, 4:09	3	7
THIRD QUARTER		
WIS TD 2:34 Matt Henningsen 0 Yd Fumble Return (Collin Larsh Kick)		
1 play, -16 yards, 0:09	3	14
FOURTH QUARTER		
WIS FG 12:58 Collin Larsh 36 Yd Field Goal		
7 plays, 41 yards, 3:17	3	17
WIS TD 11:29 Noah Burks 68 Yd Interception Return (Collin Larsh Kick)		
8 plays, 30 yards, 1:29	3	24
NW TD 8:45 Drake Anderson 4 Yd Run (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed)		
6 plays, 32 yards, 1:51	9	24
NW TD 4:10 JJ Jefferson 15 Yd pass from Aidan Smith (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed)		
11 plays, 78 yards, 2:17	15	24

Team Stats	NW	WIS
First Downs	21	13
Passes for First	11	5
Rushes for First	6	8
Penalties for First	4	0
Third Down Efficiency	5-20	4-16
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-2	1-1
Total Yards	255	243
Total Plays	82	60
Avg Gain Per Play	3.1	4.1
Net Yards Rushing	97	130
Rushes	41	36
Yards Per Rush	2.4	3.6
Net Yards Passing	158	113
Comp-Att	18-41	15-24
Yards Per Pass	3.9	4.7
Times Sacked	5	1
Yds Lost To Sacks	-49	-6
Interceptions	1	1
Punts	10	9
Punt Average	39.6	39.9
Penalties	4	7
Penalty Yards	23	79
Fumbles	2	2
Fumbles Lost	2	1
Time of Poss	28:39	31:21

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
NORTHWESTERN	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Drake Anderson	16	68	4.3	1	31		
Aidan Smith	7	11	1.6	0	9		
Isaiah Bowser	6	10	1.7	0	5		
Hunter Johnson	11	8	0.7	0	25		
Kyric McGowan	1	0	0.0	0	0		
WISCONSIN	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Jonathan Taylor	26	119	4.6	1	15		
Garrett Groshek	2	6	3.0	0	6		
Mason Stokke	1	5	5.0	0	5		
Jack Coan	3	2	0.7	0	5		
Nakia Watson	1	1	1.0	0	1		
Team	3	-3	-1.0	0	0		
PASSING							
NORTHWESTERN	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Aidan Smith	8	20	99	5.0	1	1	18.6
Hunter Johnson	10	21	59	2.8	0	0	8.9
WISCONSIN	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jack Coan	15	24	113	4.7	0	1	18.8
RECEIVING							
NORTHWESTERN	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Riley Lees	5	59	11.8	0	19		
JJ Jefferson	3	38	12.7	1	15		
Berkeley Holman	3	34	11.3	0	14		
Kyric McGowan	2	15	7.5	0	8		
Ramaud Chiaokhiao-Bowman	2	14	7.0	0	11		
Charlie Mangieri	1	1	1.0	0	1		
Drake Anderson	1	-1	-1.0	0	0		
Isaiah Bowser	1	-2	-2.0	0	0		
WISCONSIN	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Garrett Groshek	4	31	7.8	0	13		
Quintez Cephus	3	30	10.0	0	19		
Danny Davis III	3	24	8.0	0	14		
Jonathan Taylor	3	15	5.0	0	16		
A.J. Taylor	1	11	11.0	0	11		
Jake Ferguson	1	2	2.0	0	2		