

WEEK TWELVE

WISCONSIN AT PURDUE

Wisconsin celebrates Taylor-made OT victory at Purdue

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. -- Wisconsin's Jonathan Taylor kept pounding away on his thick, strong legs Saturday.

Eventually, his patience paid dividends.

Taylor wore down Purdue's defense, finishing with a career high 321 yards and scoring three times in the second half, including the decisive 17-yard touchdown run in the third overtime to lead the Badgers past Purdue 47-44.

"That's something that you watch on TV," Taylor said. "As a kid, you're watching and saying that must feel amazing. This is the exact same feeling that you dream of."

Except it was all real and the elements made this one tailor-made for the Badgers' bruising back. On a cold, rainy day that turned into night, the 231-pound Taylor certainly packed a punch.

He matched his career high with 33 carries, averaging 9.7 yards per carry while scoring on runs of 80, 12 and 17 yards when the reeling Badgers needed a boost after their playoff aspirations and Big Ten title hopes had been derailed by three losses in their last five games -- two of those without injured quarterback Alex Hornibrook who also missed Saturday's game.

Taylor jump-started the Badgers' offense with the 80-yard run on the first offensive play of the second half, helped open things up for the passing game with his strong runs and eventually created enough headaches for the Boilermakers to help Wisconsin overcome a 27-13 deficit in the final seven minutes of regulation before reaching the end zone in all three overtimes.

Wisconsin (7-4, 5-3) has won 13 straight in the series and needed to win this game and next week's regular-season finale to improve their bowl prospects.

"Our guys played as hard as they could. They gave us great effort," Purdue coach Jeff Brohm said, acknowledging his team needed more depth to stand up to Taylor. "This isn't going to happen overnight, but if we compete and keep trying to push the envelope every year, hopefully we can improve on that. It will take some time."

The loss ruined what looked like it would be a perfect send-off for three of the most productive Purdue players in school history -- quarterback David Blough and running backs D.J. Knox and Markell Jones.

Blough was 31 of 48 with 386 yards and four touchdown passes in his final home game. Knox rushed for 39 yards and had 49 yards receiving with one TD and Jones bounced off a defender during a 12-yard scoring run that turned a 13-10 deficit into a 17-13 lead.

Freshman Rondale Moore overshadowed all three. He caught nine passes for 114 yards and two TDs, rushed four times for 27 yards and set up another score with a 33-yard kickoff return. His sensational 46-yard catch-and-run for a third-quarter TD gave Purdue a 24-13 lead and he followed that by wiggling through four Badgers' defenders for a 15-yard score to open the first overtime.

Taylor made sure it still wasn't enough.

"They held them to a field goal," Taylor said. "I decided to give everything in my power to show appreciation to our defense for stopping them."

THE TAKEAWAY

Wisconsin: While this win won't save the Badgers' season, it gives them momentum heading into the regular-season finale and a chance to improve their postseason position.

Purdue: Allowing this game to slip away could prove costly for the Boilermakers, who now face a winner-take-all matchup next week at Indiana. They'll need a win to send Brohm to his fifth straight bowl game as a head coach.

STAT PACK:

Wisconsin: Quarterback Jack Coan was 16 of 24 with 206 yards and two TDs. ... Danny Davis made a spectacular one-handed 5-yard TD grab just inside the sideline to cut the deficit to 23-20 and tied the score with an 18-yard TD grab. He finishes with five catches for 82 yards. ... Wisconsin rushed for 385 yards but had 13 penalties for 171 yards.

Purdue: Blough tied Curtis Painter (12) for the second most 300-yard games in school history in a career. He's also third all-time in pass attempts and TD passes. ... Jones moved into eighth on the school's career rushing list and tied Stan Brown for No. 9 all-time in career TD runs (19). ... Terry Wright caught five passes for 99 yards.

THEY SAID IT

Wisconsin: "He (Taylor) was big-time," coach Paul Chryst said. "It was a heck of an effort."

Purdue: "I thought we had chances to win, we just didn't close the deal," Brohm said.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
WIS	0	3	10	14	2047
PUR	0	10	14	3	1744

Scoring Summary -----

	WIS	PUR
second Quarter		
PUR TD 6:11 D.J. Knox 18 Yd pass from David Blough (Spencer Evans Kick)6 plays, 55 yards, 2:26	0	7
WIS FG 1:07 Rafael Gaglianone 29 Yd Field Goal 13 plays, 54 yards, 5:04	3	7
PUR FG 0:00 Spencer Evans 20 Yd Field Goal 8 plays, 72 yards, 1:07	3	10
third Quarter		
WIS TD 14:40 Jonathan Taylor 80 Yd Run (Rafael Gaglianone Kick) 1 play, 80 yards, 0:20	10	10
WIS FG 6:27 Rafael Gaglianone 22 Yd Field Goal 12 plays, 68 yards, 6:41	13	10
PUR TD 4:08 Markell Jones 12 Yd Run (Spencer Evans Kick) 6 plays, 61 yards, 2:19	13	17
PUR TD 0:57 Rondale Moore 46 Yd pass from David Blough (Spencer Evans Kick)6 plays, 62 yards, 2:19	13	24
fourth Quarter		
PUR FG 9:57 Spencer Evans 20 Yd Field Goal 5 plays, 26 yards, 2:19	13	27
WIS TD 6:40 Danny Davis III 5 Yd pass from Jack Coan (Rafael Gaglianone Kick)9 plays, 62 yards, 3:17	20	27
WIS TD 2:51 Danny Davis III 18 Yd pass from Jack Coan (Rafael Gaglianone Kick)5 plays, 68 yards, 2:10	27	27
Overtime		
PUR TD Rondale Moore 15 Yd pass from David Blough (Spencer Evans Kick) 3 plays, 25 yards	27	34
WIS TD Jonathan Taylor 12 Yd Run (Rafael Gaglianone Kick) 3 plays, 25 yards	34	34
WIS TD Garrett Groshek 4 Yd Run (Rafael Gaglianone Kick) 2 plays, 25 yards	41	34
PUR TD Isaac Zico 25 Yd pass from David Blough (Spencer Evans Kick) 1 play, 25 yards	41	41
PUR FG Spencer Evans 41 Yd Field Goal 4 plays, 2 yards	41	44
WIS TD Jonathan Taylor 17 Yd Run2 plays, 25 yards47	47	44

Team Stats

	WIS	PUR
First Downs	24	28
Total Yards	545	458
Total Plays	75	79
Avg Gain Per Play	7.3	5.8
Net Yards Rushing	385	76
Rushes	51	31
Yards Per Rush	7.5	2.5
Net Yards Passing	160	382
Comp-Att	16-24	31-48
Yards Per Pass	6.7	8.0
Times Sacked	3	1
Yds Lost To Sacks	-22	-9
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	6	8
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	13	5
Penalty Yards	171	48
Fumbles	1	1
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Possession	31:28	28:32

Individual Stats

RUSHING

WIS	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
23 Jonathan Taylor	33	321	9.7	80	3
37 Garrett Groshek	8	39	4.9	10	1
5 Chris James	4	18	4.5	8	0
3 Kendrick Pryor	1	10	10.0	10	0
6 Danny Davis III	1	0	0.0	0	0
45 Alec Ingold	1	0	0.0	0	0
17 Jack Coan	2	-1	-0.5	8	0

PUR	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
1 D.J. Knox	11	39	3.5	8	0
8 Markell Jones	10	29	2.9	12	1
4 Rondale Moore	4	27	6.8	8	0
40 Alexander Horvath	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
11 David Blough	5	-18	-3.6	3	0

PASSING

WIS	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
17 Jack Coan	16	24	206	8.6	2	0	166.3
PUR	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
11 David Blough	31	48	386	8.0	4	0	159.6

RECEIVING

WIS	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
4 A.J. Taylor	5	89	17.8	34	0
6 Danny Davis III	4	82	20.5	55	2
3 Kendrick Pryor	2	16	8.0	11	0
84 Jake Ferguson	2	16	8.0	11	0
37 Garrett Groshek	3	3	1.0	7	0

PUR	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
4 Rondale Moore	9	114	12.7	46	2
9 Terry Wright	5	99	19.8	39	0
7 Isaac Zico	6	72	12.0	25	1
1 D.J. Knox	5	49	9.8	20	1
12 Jared Sparks	3	33	11.0	13	0
8 Markell Jones	2	15	7.5	16	0
88 Cole Herdman	1	4	4.0	4	0