

Wisconsin State Journal

BADGERS 20, BUCKEYES 17

★ Sunday, October 14, 2001 ★ D7

Neuser kicks it in gear

He rebounds from an earlier miss with the winning field goal.

By Eric Anderson
Wisconsin State Journal

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Barry Alvarez doesn't really know what to expect when he sends a kicker onto the field these days. But he knows he got what he needed in crunch time Saturday.

After watching kickers Mark Neuser and Mike Allen struggle most of the day, the University of Wisconsin football coach saw Neuser nail a 33-yard field goal with 2 minutes, 10 seconds left to play to cap the Badgers' 20-17 come-from-behind victory over 21st-ranked Ohio State.

Alvarez was in rare comic form while discussing his team's kicking game during his postgame news conference.

Asked about his confidence in Neuser on the crucial kick after he missed a field goal earlier in the game, the coach said he had other concerns.

"He missed the field a couple times on kickoffs," Alvarez deadpanned. "Oh, no, I thought he'd drain it. (Heck, he couldn't even keep it in bounds. We want a spilt, he kicks a line drive. There was no question he'd kick it between the uprights, to me."

Neuser, who beat out Allen as the No. 1 kicker three weeks ago, missed a 35-yard attempt while left late in the first half. He also had a rough time with kickoffs, prompting UW to bring in Allen for one kickoff.

Neuser later returned and had a kickoff sail out of bounds.

The poor kickoffs led to good field positioning for the Buckeyes, who started from their 41- and 49-yard line on two early scoring drives. In the

end, though, Neuser came through when it was needed. First he made a 25-yard field goal from the right hash mark early in the fourth quarter to tie the score at 17. Neuser thought that was a more difficult kick than the winner because of the angle, and it was so close and I was thinking about the first one I missed.

Making that one helped settle his nerves for the winner, Ohio State called a timeout to ice Neuser, just as on the earlier miss.

"When they called timeout (before) the first field goal, I had my mind too much on it and I missed," said Neuser, who is 4-for-5 on field goals this season. "This was just my mind clear and don't even think about it."

"I wasn't thinking about anything else. My heart wasn't pounding as it did on the kick before. It was just getting everything out of my mind, because it was a short field goal."



JOHN MANIACWIS

Mark Neuser's 33-yard field goal with 2:10 left to play proved to be the difference in Wisconsin's 20-17 victory over Ohio State on Saturday.

BADGERS REPLAY

Badgers 20, Buckeyes 17

Badgers First downs Buckeyes

15 Rushing yards 17

35-127 Passing yards 50-121

202 Punt returns 132

2-35 Kickoff returns 2-4

1-18 Interception returns 3-47

12-22 Passing (comp.-att.-int.) 10-21-1

1-5 Sacks allowed-yards lost 4-27

4-42-2 Punt-yards 3-46.3

9-0 Fumbles lost 3-6

3-15 Penalties-yards 2-20

26:00 Time of possession 33:51

Wisconsin — 0 7 7 6 — 20

Ohio State — 10 7 0 0 — 17

Ohio State — FG Huston 46

Ohio State — Ballant 1 run (Huston kick)

Ohio State — Ross 3 run (Huston kick)

Wisconsin — A. Davis 23 run (Huston kick)

Wisconsin — N. Davis 42 pass from Ballant (Neuser kick)

Wisconsin — FG Neuser 25

Wisconsin — FG Neuser 33

Att. — 103,520

INDIVIDUAL STATS

BADGERS

RUSHING

A. Davis 28-103 4.0 1 23

Ballant 7-28 4.0 0 9

Team 2-40 2.0 0 0

PASSING

Comp.-Att.-Int. Yds. TD Long

Ballant 12-22-1 202 1 42

RECEIVING

No. Yds. Avg. TD Long

N. Davis 6-92 15.0 1 42

Evans 3-62 20.7 0 35

Arnall 2-15 7.5 0 9

Chaves 1-5 5.0 0 5

PUNTING

No. Yds. Avg. Long

Munden 4 168 42.0 46

RETURNS

Punt No. Yds.

N. Davis 2 35

Kickoff No. Yds.

N. Davis 1 18

Interception No. Yds.

Brown 1 14

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

Tackles (solo-assisted-totals) —

Brown 8-15, Huston 6-11, Smith 5-9, Thompson 5-8, Bryant 5-4, Herbert 5-4, Sparks 5-3, Brown 2-1, Mack 2-1, McDrew 2-0, Jones 1-2, Kneiss 1-2, Smith 1-1, Catalano 1-0, Wells 1-0, Elliott 1-0, Huston 1-0, N. Davis 1-0, Schick 0-1, Cochran 0-1, Stephens 0-1, Allen 0-1.

Sacks — Thompson, Bryant, Smith, McGinnis.

Fumble recoveries — None.

BUCKEYES

RUSHING

Wells 26-106 4.1 0 16

Ross 14-59 4.2 1 20

Martin 1-2 2.0 0 2

Groom 1-1 1.0 0 1

Ballant 10-77 7.7 1 17

PASSING

Comp.-Att.-Int. Yds. TD Long

Ballant 10-21-1 132 0 29

RECEIVING

No. Yds. Avg. TD Long

Vance 4-67 16.8 0 29

Jarman 2-58 29.0 0 20

Wells 1-7 7.0 0 7

Martin 1-2 2.0 0 2

PUNTING

No. Yds. Avg. Long

Groom 3 139 46.3 40

RETURNS

Punt No. Yds.

Vance 1 16

Kickoff No. Yds.

Hall 2 54

Interception No. Yds.

Ross 1 16

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

Tackles (solo-assisted-totals) —

Doss 3-7, Ballant 4-7, Nixey 3-3, & Cooper 4-3, Papp 3-4, Grant 3-3, Britton 2-3, Scott 2-3, Anderson 2-3, Smith 2-2, Fox 2-2, Collins 1-2, Thompson 1-2, Jenkins 1-1, Peterson 1-1, Reynolds 1-1, Bond 1-1, Ross 0-1.

Sacks — Nixey.

Fumble recoveries — None.

UW defensive coordinator Kevin Congrove sheds tears of joy after the Badgers' victory Saturday.

JOHN MANIACWIS

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ANNUAL CHILI OPEN

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For Info

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Seasonal Employment Opportunities

Ho, Ho, Ho.

Need extra dough?

Are you looking to earn some extra spending money for the holidays? The best way to find a seasonal job is to look in the Seasonal Employment Opportunities section of the Classifieds in the Wisconsin State Journal & The Capital Times. That's because many Dane County firms will be advertising for seasonal workers to help them through the holiday rush.

So if you want to buy a special gift for someone but are feeling a little short on change, check out the holiday employment opportunities in the Classifieds on these dates:

- Sunday, October 21 (Wisconsin State Journal)
- Wednesday, October 24 (Wisconsin State Journal & The Capital Times)
- Sunday, November 4 (Wisconsin State Journal & The Capital Times)
- Wednesday, November 7 (Wisconsin State Journal & The Capital Times)

Classifieds

the best way

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Pruess Implement, Inc. | STOUGHTON
Ashton's True Value Hdw. |
| BARNVELD
Barnwell Implement, Inc. | COLUMBUS
Kirschner Repair Service | MADISON
Equipeast Center | MADISON
Walt's Saw Center | RICHLAND CENTER
Biggins' Saw & Sled | SUN PRAIRIE
Hartley Company, Inc. |
| BOSCOBEL
Kroger's Do It Best Hdw. | COTTAGE GROVE
Carter Do-It-Best Hdw. | LAVALLE
Hartje Farm, Home & Tire | MONROE
Shuler Super Service | WESTFIELD
Wiggin's Saw & Sled | WISCONSIN DELLS
Monroe Enterprises, Inc. |
| | CROSS PLAINS
Kalscheuer Implement Co. | | | | |

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