

Wisconsin State Journal **

SPORTS Extra

INSIDE COLLEGE FOOTBALL: JOHN DAVID BOOTY AND NO. 3 USC ESCAPE. PAGE E2

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BADGERS 52, HOOSIERS 17

Comfortably fun



Stocco,
Hill star
in laughter

By TOM MULHEARN
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BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — The University of Wisconsin football team's offense found its comfort zone Saturday. It's called Memorial Stadium and it's the home to Indiana, though based on the scarce crowd — which was much more intimate than the announced attendance of 32,142 — not many people in the area seem to know it's here. Just how comfortable were the Badgers on offense, during their 52-17 victory over the Hoosiers? Let junior receiver Paul Hubbard explain. "I was out there having fun, doing the things I normally do in practice, just (like) playing catch with my father when I was little," he said. UW coach Bret Bielema joked about his team's suddenly sure-handed receivers. "We gave them comfort pills," but it seemed like the truth.

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Vitals

Key: UW scores touchdowns on five straight first-half possessions and finishes with 539 total yards.

Next: 11 a.m. Saturday, vs. Northwestern, Camp Randall Stadium, TV TBA.

Inside: Smith proves up to speed. E3
Defense delivers plenty. E4
Hampton honored to be captain. E4

DeAndre Levy, top, and Matthew Shaughnessy throw Indiana quarterback Kellen Lewis for an 8-yard loss Saturday. UW held Indiana to 146 total yards until late in the third quarter.

Hubbard's cupboard full of catches, not drops

The junior has six receptions for 122 yards and a second-quarter TD.

By JESSE OSBORNE
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BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Paul Hubbard caught on quickly Saturday and, maybe most importantly, he caught everything thrown his way. The junior wide receiver started by hauling in a 21-yard reception from quarterback John Stocco on the University of Wisconsin's first play from scrimmage against Indiana, and... "After I made that catch," Hubbard said, "it made me feel like I'm going to have a

game today." A pretty good premonition, indeed. Hubbard finished with six catches for 122 yards and a touchdown in the Badgers' 52-17 victory over the Hoosiers at Memorial Stadium. The catches and yards were each career bests for the first-year starter, who clearly considered this his breakthrough performance. "I do feel like it was," Hubbard said. "There was some games where I've been really inconsistent — the first four games, I've been really inconsistent. "I wanted to come out here and show everybody I can be a consistent receiver, and when I do (that) I can be very explosive."

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Wide receiver Paul Hubbard's 42-yard catch over Indiana cornerback Tracy Porter set up UW's first touchdown on its second possession Saturday.

You'd so like to believe UW is as good as this

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — It took until the fourth quarter Saturday, but Indiana finally found a weakness in the University of Wisconsin football team. The Badgers don't play well with a 52-0 lead. "It got a little ugly at the end," UW wide receiver Luke Swan said. It didn't matter. By then, UW had made its point. Or, in this case, points. All 52 of them. Indeed, the inability of the reserves to close out the game was the only real flaw in UW's 52-17 victory over Indiana in a Big Ten Conference game at Memorial Stadium. "We were firing on all cylinders," tight end Andy Crooks said. "It was awesome."



TOM OATES

After muddling through three non-conference victories and turning in a game but ineffective performance in losing to Michigan, UW didn't look like it was capable of playing an awesome game against anyone. Not even Indiana, which is spiraling out of control due to inexperience, a lack of roster-wide talent and the ill health status of coach Terry Hoopesner.

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Ohio State's Roy Hall hauls in one of Troy Smith's four TD passes during Saturday night's win over Iowa in Iowa City.

Prime-time performers: OSU rips Iowa

QB Troy Smith and the top-ranked Buckeyes impress again on the road.

By PETE THAMEL
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IOWA CITY — As the pre-season prognosticators heaped effusive praise on Ohio State this summer, Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said he expressed some skepticism.

The Buckeyes needed to replace nine starters on defense, and Ferentz did not believe they could do so seamlessly. That cynicism quickly dissipated when the game films from Ohio State's first four games landed on Ferentz's desk last week. And after the top-ranked Buckeyes rolled to a 38-17 Big Ten Conference victory at No. 13 Iowa Saturday night, any lingering doubt in the college football world about the validity of the Buckeyes' top

ranking should disappear. Three weeks after defeating then-No. 2 Texas, Ohio State again played a top team in a hostile stadium at night and methodically took it apart. "I don't coach at Ohio State," Ferentz said, "but from my vantage point, it's the best they played all season." The Buckeyes (5-0 overall, 2-0 Big Ten) shouldn't be seriously challenged again until they host Michigan in their last

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College football scoreboard

Notre Dame	35	Florida	28
Purdue	21	Alabama	13
Michigan	28	Georgia Tech.	38
Minnesota	14	Virginia Tech.	27
Penn State	33	UW/Penn State	31
Northwestern	7	UW-DuSout.	27
Illinois	23	UW-Whitewater	34
Michigan State	20	UW-Eau Claire	0

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