

Hard-hitting Spartan defense stops Wildcats, 37-20

By Ernie Boone

Fresh from three straight Big Ten victories over solid opponents, Michigan State's football team is set to take on 12th ranked Ohio State Saturday, October 18 at Spartans Stadium.

MSU out battled Iowa, 16-13, then stunned the previously unbeaten Northwestern Wildcats, 37-20, at Evanston. The victories marked the first time since 2003 that MSU has opened the season with six wins in seven outings. The Spartans will attempt to run their winning streak to seven as they enter what might be called the Program Phase of their schedule.

Ohio State sports an identical (6-1, 3-0 Big Ten) record to share the conference lead with MSU and Penn State, and owns a six game victory streak in the series with the Spartans.

Defense and special teams paved the way against Iowa and Northwestern. Junior place kicker, Bret Swenson, kicked three field goals, and the defense sacked Ricky Stanzi three times and intercepted him once to keep the Hawkeyes out of the end zone when necessary to claim victory.

Adam Decker came up with the defensive gem of the season, breaking through the Iowa line to stop Shonn Green for a 3-yard loss on fourth down to end a Hawkeye threat with just 2:16 left in the game and MSU clinging to a 16-13 lead.

The play enabled MSU to run out the clock and secure their second Big Ten win.

Stacking eight and nine men in the box most of the day, Iowa managed to contain Javon Ringer, limiting the Spartan's Hiesman Trophy candidate to just 103 yards

rushing and no touchdowns. It marked the first time this season Ringer has been kept out of the end zone. Brian Hoyer picked up the slack, however, hitting on 13 of 24 passes for 184 yards and a touchdown, and Swenson did the rest hitting from 29, 32 25 yards.

Swenson continued his scoring against Northwestern, kicking three field goals and four extra points. He has now hit 15 field goals in a row, a Spartan record. He eclipsed the mark of 13 set by Paul Edinger in 1998.

The defense found new standouts as Ryan Allison, Eric Gordon and Greg Jones each posted 11 tackles, Dan Fortner and Johnny Adams snagged interceptions, David Rolf recovered a fumble and Justin Kershaw got a sack. MSU was stifled on its first possession, going three-and-

out after true freshman, Glenn Winston, returned the opening kick-off 50 yards to mid-field.

The Spartans returned the favor and held the Wildcats three and out.

Otis Wiley then returned the punt 20 yards to the Northwestern 42 and MSU went on a six play drive capped by a 3-yard touchdown pass from Brian Hoyer to Garrett Celek.

Rolf forced and recovered a fumble on the ensuing kick-off at the Wildcat 25-yard line, and MSU cashed in on a 26-yard field goal.

On the next Northwestern possession, Fortner intercepted a C.J. Bacher pass, returned it to the Wildcat 34 to set up the second MSU touchdown. Ringer scored on a 13-yard run around left end to make the score 17-0 and the romp was on.

Junior kicker garners award for the second straight week

EAST LANSING, Mich. - Junior kicker Brett Swenson has been named the Big Ten Special Teams Player of the Week for the second consecutive week after making all three of his field-goal attempts and four point-after attempts in Saturday's 37-20 win at Northwestern.

Swenson set a school record for consecutive field goals in the victory over the Wildcats and connected on field goals from 26, 42 and 34 yards out. Since missing his first attempt of the season, Swenson has converted a school-record 15 straight field goals, breaking the previous record of 13 straight set by Paul Edinger in 1998.

MSU cornerback Johnny Adams in 37-20 victory over Northwestern.

Michigan State's Midnight Madness to be held on Oct. 17

Breslin Center doors open at 9:30 p.m.

EAST LANSING, Mich. - Michigan State's annual Midnight Madness event to tip-off the 2008-09 basketball season will be held on Friday, Oct. 17. Doors to the Breslin Center will open at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The event begins with autographs for Spartan fans on the Breslin Center concourse. The formal program will begin at 10:30 p.m. and feature the introduction of the men's and women's basketball teams. The evening will also include promotional giveaways and performances by the Spartan Marching Band, Michigan State cheerleaders, MSU dance team and Sparty. The evening will conclude with the men's basketball team playing on the court at midnight.

Director for the Office of Community Media City of Lansing



The City of Lansing is seeking a qualified professional to work on a contractual, part-time basis (20 hours/week) as the Director of the new Office of Community Media (OCM) in the Department of Finance. The successful applicant will possess a minimum of five (5) years experience in commercial or public broadcasting, including management of broadcasting operations, development and oversight of operating and capital budgets, and supervision of personnel. The contract will begin on or before January 1, 2009 and terminate on June 30, 2009. Renewal of the contract for a full one-year term beginning July 1, 2009 will be based on a performance evaluation of the work performed under the initial contract. The salary is \$35.00 per hour (no benefits). Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and a resume to the City of Lansing Department of Human Resources, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, 4th Floor City Hall, Lansing, MI 48933. For details regarding this position, contact Donna Black at (517) 483-4593. Apply by the deadline date of November 3, 2008.

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