QUOTES FROM LEWIS

Opening Statement

“Obviously a very physical, very talented, very disciplined team. They came out and played very well, we have to do a better job to prepare our guys the task at hand. We have to prepare them for the work, the discipline that it is going to take to win a game like that. Great job by our guys to fight all the way to the end, love to see a young guy like Nunez get an opportunity and go out there and make a play, cause a turnover. We got to get back, watch the tape, regroup because we have a very important week up ahead.”

On their physicality
“It is what they’re built on, it is what they recruit to, it’s their culture and their foundation and it has been that way for a really long time and we knew that going into the game. Their ability to run the football, control the game, the pace, for them to have 75 snaps to us only have 45 is a testament to the style that they want to play. We just have to do a great job getting into the weight room so we can get that strength and that physicality to be able to establish our program. They’ve been established for a long time and it’s our job to do that work in the off-season to get our program to that level to take advantage of these opportunities when they present themselves. “

On Jonathan Taylor
“He’s the best running back in the country.”

On the offensive line
“It’s the best offensive line in the country.”

On the running game, Bangda over Shaw at the start
“We have a good group of guys, a good stable of backs where between the two of them (Shaw and Bangda) and Xavier Williams, he is a good compliment with his speed. We feel blessed that we have three guys that we feel can do a really good job for us at this level. That allows us to share the workload between those guys, especially with the workload that we have ahead of us. Having that depth allows us to manage those carries, spread them out a little bit to keep everyone healthy for the long haul.”

On coaching against his alma mater
“It’s the second time that I have been on the opposite sideline as an opposing coach. It’s obviously a different feel but it’s great to come back, see familiar faces but at the same time, I am now 0-2, I’d like to get on the right side of the win column.”

On Wisconsin
“They’re the best defense in the country. They’re very physical, very disciplined, very sound. You can tell that coach Leonard does a great job with that group and it’s a group that just loves to play football. Regardless of the conditions or the game or the opponent, they go out together as a team and execute at a very high level. “

On the quarterback play
“Dustin Crum is our starting quarterback and he will continue to start and lead us. But those guys are out at practice continuing to push each other and getting better each day. Similar to the running backs, having the luxury to spread the workload around is something we take advantage of especially when we look at the bigger picture.”
MISC

- Last player to account for five or more TDs before Jonathan Taylor: Riley Neal, Ball State 2018
- Last player to rush for four touchdowns against Kent: Branden Oliver, Buffalo in 2013
- Barrett’s fumble, first Kent State turnover since third quarter versus Kennesaw State
- First time being shutout since 21-0 loss at Marshall in 2017

OFFENSE

Joachim Bangda

- Averaged eight yards per carry against Badgers
- Averaging over 13 yards per carry over last two games (11 carries, 146 yards, 1TD)

Woody Barrett

- Came in relief of Crum in third quarter, hit Ray James on 28-yard slant

Dustin Crum

- Ran consecutive pass streak without an interception to 132, a mark that is in the top-10 active FBS streaks

Raymond James

- 28-yard catch from Barrett is longest of his career

DEFENSE

Jabbar Price

- Had first career sack and a pair of tackles for loss

Mario Nunez

- First forced fumble and fumble recovery

Zayin West

- Matched career high in stops in first half alone with four solo first half stops
SPECIAL TEAMS

DEREK ADAMS

- 10-of-26 punts this year have gone over 50 yards
- 11-of-26 punts have gone inside the opponent’s 20 yard line

MATT TRICKETT

- Miss from 53 yards would have been career long
- Had pooch punt out of 57-yard field goal try that went 39 yards for a touchback