

Hawkeyes upset 11th-ranked Badgers

By Brendan Stiles

HawkeyeDrive.com

The Iowa Hawkeyes sent shockwaves through the college basketball world Saturday, upsetting No. 11 Wisconsin 72-65 at the Kohl Center in Madison. It marked the first time the Hawkeyes have left Madison with a victory since 2000, and it was a rare home loss for a Wisconsin squad that went undefeated at home last season during Big Ten play.

Iowa improved to 9-6 overall with the win and is now 1-1 in Big Ten play after losing its conference opener on Dec. 28 to Purdue.

Coming up huge in the second half for the Hawkeyes were a pair of bench players – freshman forward Aaron White and senior guard Bryce Cartwright. White finished with a team-high 18 points, with 16 of those points coming in the second half. Meanwhile, Cartwright played 31 minutes off the bench and posted 17 points on 7-of-12 shooting and added a team-high five assists.

Iowa also received a double-digit scoring effort from sophomore forward Melsahn Basabe, who had 14 points and nine rebounds. Senior guard Matt Gatens had six points, as well as a team-high 12 rebounds.

The Hawkeyes jumped out to an early eight-point lead before Wisconsin crawled its way back in the first half, as the two teams went to halftime tied at 31-31. From there, Iowa managed to take over with the efforts from White and Cartwright among others.

In addition, the Badgers shot an anemic 3-of-28 from 3-point range and finished 24-of-69 shooting from the floor. Conversely, the Hawkeyes shot 29-of-59, including 15-of-26 in the second half.

Iowa returns to action on Jan. 3 when it opens 2012 against Minnesota at Williams Arena in Minneapolis. Be sure to visit HawkeyeDrive.com for complete coverage of the Hawkeyes' contest with the Golden Gophers.