

# Nebraska vs. Fresno State (September 3, 2016)

## Fresno State Head Coach Tim DeRuyter Postgame Quotes

### Opening Statement

"Congratulations to Nebraska, they are a good football team. I think we have a good football team. They are well coached and have some explosive players. I thought our guys went toe to toe with them for a pretty good bit and then they broke our will a little bit in that fourth quarter. I'm proud of our guys' effort, but it wasn't close enough to beat a good team like Nebraska on the road in this kind of environment. I just told our guys, playing hard is one thing, but you have to play well. You can't turn the ball over like we did and lose the turnover like we did. We needed to win that. We made some plays in special teams, to block the punt and settle the score. Defensively we have to force more takeaways. The bottom line was they were able to run the football against us, particularly late, but you know I thought we picked things up after the first quarter pretty well. The flood gates opened and we got a little bit discouraged fourth quarter, but our guys fought."

### On Nebraska's defense:

"I think they blew us up more than they have in the past. We had a really tough time getting our run game started, and that's tough. We had to run all the time. For the most part our offensive line protected our quarterback, pretty well. They did get several sacks but overall we had 43 attempts. That's a lot of pressure with a good line like Nebraska has, so I give them credit. They stopped our running game and made things very difficult."

### On what he is telling his team going forward:

"Well I told our guys that obviously today was not good enough, but we have a chance to be a good football team. You come into an environment like this and we have a lot of young players. A lot of those guys weren't sure. We got in a fight, we got punched in the nose early. We were down 14, and our guys fought back, and we fully expected them to. Came out in the third quarter and kept fighting and scratching and they did a couple more plays than we did. That is the story of the ball game, but I told our guys we are a good football team and we will learn from this and improve and come back next week and win one in Bulldog Stadium."

### On the first punt of the game:

"I talked to coach Riley about that. The officials first told me in our officials meeting before and then I talked to Mike before. No hesitation. It is tragic. I was talking with our coaches, and I can't imagine losing a son. And if we can't teach our guys to not do something classy like that then what is college for? I said we were going to decline the penalty. We were going to do that."

### On the final score:

"You know the final score is the final score. You lose by one or you lose by whatever you lost by it doesn't matter. What matters is do you keep fighting, which I thought our guys did. Our guys know that the final score is probably not indicative of the game I think the Nebraska coaches would say the same thing. But you know it is what it is, they scored that many points, and we scored 10 points so there are no moral victories. But our guys realize when we play well and we don't turn the ball over we can make some plays. We've got a chance to be a good football team."