

Nebraska vs. Maryland (Nov. 19, 2016)

Maryland Head Coach DJ Durkin Postgame Quotes

Opening statement

"Obviously, Max (Bortenschlager) was our starting quarterback, I want to give him credit. I thought he competed and played well. We need some guys to help him more to make some plays. We struggled to run the ball. Really throughout this year I think that has been the one constant, that we have been able to run the ball in the game. We weren't able to do that today and that affected Max as well. If you can't run the ball then that is hard on any quarterback. Especially a freshman in a hostile environment. But I thought that he handled the situation well. Defensively speaking we have to start faster, we got ourselves in a hole again and that's been the story for the past couple of weeks. We've got to fix that but I'm really proud of how our defense came back and played, especially in the second half I thought it played really well and played more like what we are capable of and what we should be playing. All in all, credit to Nebraska, they are a great team that won the game but we just have to play better, start faster and I think we will. We have a big game coming home next week we have to get ready for."

On his decision to start Max Bortenschlager

"Perry (Hills) is not healthy enough to play effectively. It was not the best interest of him or the team so that's why he wasn't going to play. We felt like Max had a really great week of practice. We know the position, we let guys go compete and run it and Max earned it through the way he practiced. Looking at the first drive of the game I thought that he did a good job driving the ball down the field. We didn't convert that into points. Then we got stagnant there for a bit and couldn't run the ball. That effected him. Anytime you have a defense tee-off on you, again whoever is back there that is going to be hard, especially for his first game."

On keeping his defense on the field for long stretches

"The first half they (Nebraska) did a good job of doing that and we were right there to make a play and don't quite make it. We get a pressure but then we lose contain and then he scrambles. It was just one of those things, I don't know. I wanted to puke on the sidelines. It was like we were there, there were a couple 3rd-and-longs too. But credit to our defense to come back in the second half and we did convert in those third downs, we got ourselves off the field. We had several 3-and-outs. We just have to keep going there is no magic formula. You just have to keep practicing and keep playing and that's what we did last week. We just kept working. I think we saw some results and we are better and we will do it again."

On how he compares playing Nebraska to Ohio State, Michigan, and Penn State

"All good teams. We get the opportunity to play in a great conference. It's deep and there are a lot of great teams and a lot of well coached teams."