

Nebraska vs. Iowa (Nov. 25, 2011)

Iowa Head Coach Kirk Ferentz Postgame Quotes

Opening Statement

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"First of all, congratulations to Nebraska. They played an outstanding game today and clearly deserved to win the football game. We are disappointed. We thought we had a good week of practice and were ready to play. I think our guys played hard, but we got outplayed by Nebraska in all areas."

On not getting off to a fast start

"It's always good on the road to do that. They weren't up for allowing us to do that and certainly they did a good job defensively all day long. They made it tough and it was one of those days where we had a hard time moving the ball consistently. We weren't very productive in terms of points."

On if today was the best coverage the team has seen on McNutt this year

"Yeah, I think that's fair to say. We didn't do much in the pass game against Penn State either. That would be the other game that comes to mind without thinking too deeply. They did a good job. (Alfonzo) Dennard is a hell of a corner."

On if anything Nebraska did surprised Ferentz

"Not necessarily. They played good football and weren't going to let our best guys beat them. They really singled out Marvin (McNutt) and did a good job there. That is good defense. They played well at all positions. I think the story for us was that we couldn't do anything in the passing game."

On how frustrating it was for Iowa to not be able to get Nebraska off of the field

"They played a good game in all three phases. Clearly, much better than they had a week ago. Last week was disappointing for them. They turned the ball over and were sloppy on special teams. They had a good week getting ready and I'm not going to say there was a turning point in the game, but if there was, it was the drive before the end of the first half where they went 80 yards. That one, and they nailed one for 85 yards in the third quarter."

On if it was Nebraska's defense was the reason the passing game wasn't working

"When they're playing well, they're a good defensive football team. They played well today, for sure. They're a very athletic, fast group back there with their linebackers and secondary guys all running well. They did a good job and we weren't effective enough spreading around the ball. When they take one thing away, we have to be able to find other ways and areas to go. Everybody has a hand in that, certainly. It's a learning thing and we will learn from this and move on."

On what the message to the team is during the next month in preparation for the bowl game

"We are off now until Tuesday. We will have a meeting and we will start moving forward. Our focus today was to come in here and get our eighth win and that didn't happen. Now we shoot for that in our next game out and we will see what we can do about improving in the areas that we didn't play well enough today. We will see what we can do about growing and getting that eighth win."

On what kept Iowa from throwing the deep ball until the fourth quarter

"There really wasn't anything open. That was a big part of it. There wasn't much open."

On what happens when you give up so many rushing yards

"I thought we ran effectively, the blocking and running was good, but a game like today you don't get enough chances to rush if you aren't sustaining drives in the first-half. That's as old as time. If they rush well and you don't, you better get some turnovers and they played a perfect game that way. In the first-half, we had a couple balls that came out and we couldn't get them. They took care of business and played an excellent game."