Iowa 10, Minnesota 12 Player Quotes Kinnick Stadium | Oct. 21, 2023

Cooper DeJean Defensive Back

On having a late punt-return touchdown overturned:

"I am still kind of in shock of what all happened. It is frustrating for this team. We kept fighting through the end of the game. Seems like it was all taken away in that one play."

On whether he considered the possibility of a review:

"No. I assumed they would blow the whistle if it was a fair catch. I didn't hear a whistle, though, so I just kept going."

On not making any appeal to the officials:

"There is nothing I could do about it. They had already made their decision."

On the importance of a quick defensive stop prior to the punt return:

"That is what was going through everybody's mind. We had three timeouts. We figured we could get a stop there and get the ball back with good field position."

On losing the Floyd of Rosedale trophy:

"It is tough. Don't have much to say. Just have to move on get better over this bye week and get ready for our next game... It is really tough, especially the way it happened, but we have got to move on. We have to finish out the season as best we can."

On whether he is coached to avoid accidental fair catches similar to tonight's play:

"No. I have never had a problem with that before. I didn't think I got my arm above my head, at least. I widened myself to turn and get the ball. It is tough."

Joe Evans
Defensive Line

On the team's effort:

"We gave tremendous effort out there. There are plenty of things we can fix on the tape. I am proud of every single one of the guys on the team for the effort that they gave today."

On emotions after the defeat:

"It is definitely very tough. It stings a lot. Just how the game ended. You are riding this rollercoaster; you're up, then you're down. To end up not winning the game is tough. This is a team I have never lost to before, and it's a trophy game. Obviously, that makes it that much more tough. It is going to be on us as individuals. I am a leader of this team. There are a lot of leaders in that locker room. We are going to have to come to practice next week, on the bye week, ready to go and fight through this."

On leadership after a difficult loss:

"We are going to have to go in and watch the tape. That is going to sting and it should. Everyone on the team has put in so much time and so much effort into being a winning football team. It is going to sting, but this next week is definitely for improvement. We just need to go into practice everyday and work on fine tuning the fundmentals and everything."

On taking longer to move forward due to the bye week:

"In my perspective, it definitely will. It is going to take mental days, at least from my standpoint. I think it will for some guys on the team. Just because it is a bye week and you are not then looking forward to the next game. That is something that has to be on the leaders of the team to keep everyone pushing forward."

Quinn Schulte
Defensive Back

On feelings after DeJean's apparent punt-return touchdown:

"Obviously we were very excited. As a defense, we were trying to lock back in to go out there and get another stop. Then, wit was unfortunate that they called it back, and we were just trying to move on from there."

On moving forward:

"We have to put this game behind us and obviously go back to the drawing board and do some self scouting next week. Especially with the time and hopefully get ready for our next game against Northwestern."

On whether this loss felt different than others:

"I think anytime you lose it's the same feeling, no matter how you lose. We don't enjoy the loss and were hoping to get the win at the end of the day. We are going to have to regroup and see where we can go from there."

On defense during the fourth quarter:

"I don't think we ran out of gas. I just think we didn't execticute. I think we are all in very good condition, and we work on that in practice, but again, the defense didn't do its job in the second half. We gave up too many points and we need to be better."

On effort and competing:

"We just didn't execute as well as we could, and we weren't as strong on the back end as we usually are. They made a good play, and they had a good throw, and it was just unfortunate for us."

On game plan in the final minutes:

"I think the defensive line was trying to do a good job of getting pressure on them. We were trying to mix things up on the backend and just trying to throw them off a little bit."

On what is next for the team:

"I think the most important thing for us is to remember we have so much ahead of us. Knowing that we haven't reached our full potential, we haven't played our best game of football, and the skies the limit for us."

Deacon Hill Quarterback

On today's performance and execution during the second half:

"This was not the way we wanted things to go, not the way I wanted things to go. This really stings, and we have to move forward. I don't think they changed much; we just didn't execute. I didn't execute. Simple as that. They outnumbered us in the box (against the run), they brought their safeties down in the run fit. We knew that coming into the game. Hats off to them."

On the message to the team in the locker room:

"Coach Ferentz said there was nothing he could say to make us feel better. We still have a four-week season after the bye week, so we have to get ready for that. Back to the drawing board next week."