

Washington vs. Rutgers Postgame Quotes
Alaska Airlines Field at Husky Stadium
October 10, 2025

Washington Head Coach Jedd Fisch

Opening Statement

Happy Friday night. It will be nice to get tomorrow to regroup, recover, and to be able to have a normal week, for the first time. We will leave Thursday, but we'll be able to have tonight and tomorrow to rest up a little bit. I'm proud of our guys. I thought that it was a really good battle early. I think Rutgers came out as they always do. Explosive. They played very well, as I would expect. Schiano – I have so much respect for him as a head coach and his team is always going to be extremely prepared. I thought our guys really handled the initial surge, going down 10 to nothing, opening drive, they scored, then we drove down, missed a field goal, and then they drove back and kicked a field goal. So now it's 10 nothing and we're backed up. We needed that extra drive – that fourth drive to get that touchdown. And then we got going a little bit, that drive at the end half was a big deal to get points on the board and then come out the way we came out in the second half. Really proud of our offense, our defense, our kicking game, and the second half. First half, we need to be better. I thought that Demond Williams was a superstar. And the fact that he had, from what I understand, the all time total offense record of 538 yards, at the University of Washington, the fact that he's the first person at the University of Washington to have over 400 yards passing and over 100 yards rushing and he's the 16th person in the history of college football to do that. He is special, and we've known that for a lot of years now. We're so proud of Dezmen Roebuck, as a freshman, having over 100 yards receiving. I think he is the first person since Hunter Bryant to get that done. And it's great to see Ephesians Prysock close out the game with an interception, and for Jonah Coleman to continue to keep his touchdown streak going with yet another touchdown. So proud of our team, I know this is a crazy night here in Seattle. I understand the game is still going on – the Mariners game. So, I'm really hopeful that they will win as well. But obviously, we're looking for a huge crowd the next time we're at home, that's going to be something that we're gonna count on moving forward. But we understand tonight, and we look forward to celebrating with all of our fans here and the rest of our home games.

Was there any specific adjustment you guys made after the first quarter to get the offense going a little bit?

No, because the first drive, we did what we wanted and we drove down there and just wound up missing a field goal from the 20 yard line, and then field position didn't work for us in the second and third series, and they had a couple of good answers to some of the stuff we were trying to get done early. And then, we just stayed with our game plan, no changes. We'd spent, you know, 96 hours preparing, and we just stayed with what we believed in, stayed with what we thought was going to work and let it evolve and let it happen. And all of a sudden it started happening the way we thought. We only had, I think,

50 something plays again. This is crazy, the small amount of plays we're getting in games, but proud of our guys to average 10 yards a play.

Coach, you've known Dezmen [Roebuck] for a long time, and he wasn't here for spring ball – he got here late. I know you're going to say you're not surprised, but you have to be surprised what he's doing right now and where he's at, how far he's coming in a short period of time.

Yeah, I've known him for a long time, and I have seen him play. Every time I've seen him play, he looks like this. The question becomes, did I know that he was going to look like this right away? The true freshman on the Big Ten stage? He continues to prove himself right, to prove all his believers right. I think he had no doubt. His confidence is extremely high and I'm just so proud of how he plays. It's his stuff away from the play that sometimes no one realizes how hard he blocks. Take a look at some of those plays that Demond broke free, and look at the guy that's leading the way blocking downfield. Look at the throw to Q. Moore [Quentin Moore], the throw to Deck [Decker Degraaf] and the blocking going on by Roebuck.

This makes the second consecutive double digit comeback win. Can you just talk about the resiliency of this group?

Yeah, that's it. We're trying to avoid those double digits comebacks, but we have done them a couple times now. I think that's what's really cool about our team, we made a big point of emphasis to play the next play. Don't worry about what's behind you, don't worry about what's just happened. And if we can continue with that mentality and realize that, hey, the only thing we can control is the next player, the play we're playing, we're going to be able to overcome a 10 point or 14 point deficit. We just want to try to avoid them the best we can and see if we can really come out and start fast and finish strong.

Washington Quarterback Demond Williams Jr.

How does it feel to rush for a hundred tonight?

Yeah, I mean, I rushed for 100 a few times in high school, but. I would say just taking what the defense was giving me, and you could tell that their main focus was on Jonah, so being able to pull some of the zone reads, and just get as many yards as I could was definitely pivotal to us winning.

Did you sense in the second half that maybe their defense was starting to wear down a little bit?

Yeah, just a little bit. I think that we were just starting to pour on them a little bit, especially in the past game. And continuing to just take him one play at a time.

What do you think happened in the first half? In the first half, you didn't come out great, but you straightened it out quicker this time.

Yeah, I mean, we just started off a little shaky, I don't think there's any real reasoning for that. I would just say, we just have to keep focusing on starting faster.

What does a performance like this mean to you?

It means a lot. You pray countless times for nights like this, and I will forever give Him the glory for this.

Can you just walk me through what the game plan was?

We knew they were going to play man, and we tried to make our young guys win. Even left Denzel one-on-one a few times. So, making sure to give those guys a chance and just putting the ball in the air and letting those guys be themselves.

You got to be pretty happy when you see Denzel one on one. You haven't seen a ton of that must be a nice sight for you to see.

Yeah, definitely. I mean, we've been trying to get a one-on-one for a couple weeks now, but having the opportunity tonight and having us click a few times is definitely important.

Washington Wide Receiver Dezmen Roebuck

What was working well for you guys on offense?

Everything was, we just started off slow. Came back at halftime, we just did what we were supposed to do.

What has gone into being such an effective true freshman?

Coming in, just doing my job when the ball comes to me. Just make plays and when the ball's in my hand, just get yards out of the catch.

Can you talk about your relationship with Demond? going into the future as you're a freshman, he's a Sophomore?

We're gonna keep growing together. I came in a little later, so that connection was built when I got here, and it's going to continue to grow.

What was it like watching Demond on play the way he did, especially in the second half?

He's a playmaker, playmakers make plays. He came out and did what he was supposed to do.

Your first 100-yard game as a receiver, how does that feel?

It's a true blessing, just coming out and doing whatever I can to help the team win.

Washington Wide Receiver Denzel Boston

Has your ability to read the ball developed over time or have you always had that?

God did gift me with an ability to track a football. I can say that. Or it was my dad! Because when I was five years old, we'd be in the backyard throwing the ball, catching it over the

shoulder, and all types of stuff like that. So I'd say just working on it, I've been doing it my whole life, and also God given ability at some point.

Did you sense in the second half that the defense was starting to wear down?

I mean, I sensed it. The second half is always hard. It's always where the battle starts. That's where the game really starts. I kind of felt them start to wear down, trash talk started to dwindle down and all that. So once you start seeing their energy go down, it's time to step on the throat.

Yeah, you know I was just one on Kind of a historic performance tonight from De Williams Jr. What is you think of what you saw out there?

It's amazing, especially playing with Mike and also getting to play with another great QB Demond. He just broke the record at UW, and he was also the number 16th in like NCAA history for what he just did tonight. He's young and he has so much time to even grow off of this. And I just think there's so much more explosiveness in place for him to make in the future.

You've watched the practice that played for a year and a half. Does he do things that surprises you at this point?

No, I mean, he's always going to do stuff that surprises me. He's an electric player. Everything he's doing, I'm not shocked that he's doing it. That's what he does.

Rutgers Head Coach Greg Schiano

Opening Statement

To win in the Big Ten, we've got to put it together consistently in all three phases, and we're unable to do that tonight. We certainly had our chances, we certainly played good football at times, but as I told you, consistency is the last thing that comes and we're just not there yet. At times, we played defensively well, and then other times, just too many mistakes to have a chance to win. Offensively, we've got to finish drives off in the red zone. Special teams we missed a field goal, and we got a penalty on a kickoff return where we had an opportunity. They had a personal foul, kicked off from the 20. We returned the favor with a holding penalty. Those are the things that get you. There's several things as I watch the tape on the ride home, it's going to be maddening. But we've got good men in that room back there. We've got good coaches; we've got good players. Not quite there yet, but we will get there.

Was there anything you saw that was different in the second half?

We made too many mistakes in the second half. Missed assignments. Number two is a dynamic player as a ball carrier and as a quarterback. The quarterbacking part, I can't tell you, because we cut guys loose in coverage where if you just throw it in the vicinity, it's going to be a catch. The runs he made, those are special. We had him dead to rights a couple times. I tend to watch the back end, but I knew a couple times we had him spied

with some of our players and I said, 'He's definitely going to get him because they saw him flash,' my eyes are down there to watch the coverage. But I figured we had him and he got away. That's what a dynamic guy like that can do for you. Not the biggest guy in the world. I talked to Coach (Jedd) Fisch about him at the beginning, I said, 'Where the heck you find this kid?' He's an Arizona kid that he had in his camp. Sometimes you have to say, 'Hey, this kid is a dynamic player. So what if he's 511?' That's what number two is, hat's off to him, and we have to find a way to defend that, and that's what was disappointing. But more disappointing was the mistakes we made. I thought we played better at times on defense. There definitely was improvement, just not enough. As I told the team, you could sit there and moan and groan about it, or you can own it and go back and work, fix it. That's what we have to do, and it starts with me. I feel like I'm repeating myself, because it's not much different than what I said out at Minnesota. But the reality, that's my job. I have to figure out how to get everybody to do their job a little bit better and a little bit better by a bunch of guys, all of a sudden, you end up, it's a bunch better. Right now, I'm not doing my job well enough, because we're not getting those bunches. We're not getting those little bits that add up to a bunch. I've got to figure that out. I've been here before; I've done this a long time. We will figure it out. It doesn't get easier. We got Oregon coming to town in a week, and we'll get this one behind us and get home, get a little rest, and then get back to work and again, it's about getting better. We need to keep getting better. That'll serve us well.

How much of the defensive issues do you pin on coaching?

I have to put it all on coaching. Players play, we are the ones that have to get them to play the way we want them to play. I put it all on us but I think play calling is overrated. Not that it's not important, but I think it's overrated. If it's on the call sheet, it should be good. Otherwise, you shouldn't have it on the call sheet. When to call it, when not to call it, that can be argued. When you don't do your assignments, that's coaching, and we had that too much tonight. I've got to look, first in the mirror and figure out why. We got better. There's things we did better against what I thought was a very explosive offense, but at the end of the day, it wasn't good enough.

Rutgers Linebacker Dariel Djabome

On the strip fumble at the end of the second half, how important was that play to that time?

It came down to me executing my job and then I had an opportunity to get that ball away and I did it.

What do you think was the issue in the second half that you were able to keep up?

We were not focused on our job and executing. It always comes down to execution. They have great players on offense, so we have to execute better.

What do you have to do to contain Demond Williams Jr. and stop him for a loss instead?

We've got to be able to contain a quarterback better. Stay in our lane, stay disciplined, and then execute.

Why do you think this defense is struggling so much this season?

There's a lot of new coaches, new faces on this defense. We've got to be able to execute better. Know our job, chop them down. We're going to keep chopping.

Rutgers Quarterback Athan Kaliakmanis

Did well to get to the redzone. Why do you think you guys weren't able to punch it in?

That starts with me. I have to be better. That's the truth. Things were there. I got to be better as a player. It starts with me.

A couple of passes batted at the line of scrimmage. Was that not getting all out in time or was that them getting their hands up?

I can move around in the pocket. I can move and avoid those guys and, yeah, a couple in the red zone, too. I could move around; I could move better in the pocket and deliver those throws.

Antwan (Raymond) had something like 200 total yards. Catching touchdown, rushing 51 yards. How much improvement have you seen from him? Does it feel like the run game has missed a beat with?

100%. He keeps chopping. He's a very good player. I'm proud of him and his growth so far. He's only going to continue to get better.

Rutgers Running Back Antwan Raymond

Ten touchdowns in the season, you've scored every week so far. What do you think goes into your success so far.

Trusting my training. Every night, I go out there knowing that I don't have to do anything special. All I have to do is trust my training and be myself, and that's good enough. I take every game. I come with the same approach for every game. I do what's called.

The touchdown pass, the long pass, and then you beat a guy, what did you see on that play?

I just did my job. Saw the ball in the air, great ball, caught it, and I did my best to score. That's what I did.

You guys had a lot of trips to the redzone with just one touchdown. Why do you think you guys weren't able to cash-in all those long drives that you were able to put together?

I'm not sure. I don't have an answer for you. The game just finished. Hop on the plane, watch the film, and learn from it, but I feel like we did a good job of having high effort. We'll learn from this.

First receiving touchdown on the season, you think that's an aspect of your game that you can continue to improve?

I feel like I could do it all. I feel like I could be dangerous in the backfield or outside and catch the ball.

How do you guys stay confident after three straight losses? How do you not let that guard you guys?

Where at Rutgers so our whole model is chop. Chop is not something that we say or do when stuff is going good, we started out the season three and zero, now we're three and three. We've got to keep chopping and keep going.