

WEEK FOURTEEN
MARYLAND at MICHIGAN ST

Michigan State bowl eligible after edging Maryland 19-16

EAST LANSING, Mich. -- Michigan State players came out to meet reporters after the game with green hats that said "PROGRAM WIN" on the back.

It's a far cry from the Big Ten championships the Spartans played for earlier in the decade, but they were able to save face a bit by beating Maryland and becoming bowl eligible.

"I think it's about a four-dollar hat," coach Mark Dantonio said. "I just felt like, hey, need to have something to hang on to, point towards. They didn't get the hats until Friday."

Matt Coghlin kicked a 33-yard field goal with 2:14 remaining, and Michigan State beat Maryland 19-16 on Saturday. It was hardly an impressive performance for the Spartans against a Maryland team that had lost eight of its previous nine games, but Michigan State did just enough late. The Spartans drove 74 yards in 12 plays to set up the decisive kick by Coghlin, who also made a 32-yard field goal earlier in the final quarter.

The Terrapins (3-9, 1-8 Big Ten) still had a chance after Michigan State (6-6, 4-5) took the lead, but Josh Jackson's pass toward Chigoziem Okonkwo fell incomplete on fourth down from the Maryland 47. Xavier Henderson was providing tight coverage on the play for the Spartans.

Brian Lewerke threw for 342 yards for Michigan State but was intercepted twice in the first quarter. The Spartans had all sorts of trouble against Maryland, which had lost each of its previous four games by at least 31 points.

But Michigan State has missed the postseason just once under Dantonio, and the Spartans were able to win in the last home game for Lewerke and some other seniors.

"Obviously things didn't go well the past couple years, but there are still memories I look back and I'm very proud of," Lewerke said. "I tried to get as many handshakes in on the field as I could before I walked off. I just tried to enjoy every second of walking off the field."

The Terrapins took a 16-13 lead in the third quarter on a 63-yard touchdown run by Anthony McFarland Jr., but Michigan State kept them off the scoreboard after that. McFarland finished with 134 yards on eight carries.

"I just did what I could do, seeing holes and just try to execute, making the best out of my plays," he said.

Each team turned the ball over twice in the first half, and the Spartans were also stopped on fourth-and-1 from the Maryland 4-yard line. Lewerke's 1-yard scoring run with 3:08 left in the second quarter gave Michigan State a 13-7 lead at halftime.

Another crucial turnover came toward the end of the third quarter. Maryland was up 16-13 and driving when Jackson lost the ball and Michigan State recovered at its own 27.

RARE FG

Maryland's Joseph Petrino kicked a 33-yard field goal in the third quarter, just the second made field goal for the Terrapins this season. He later had an extra point blocked.

QUOTABLE

Dantonio said he did something similar with the hats in 2012, when Michigan State also won its last regular-season game to make it to a bowl.

"We got it done in '12, and I thought that this was a must-win for our football team and our program, just to get back to .500," he said. "It's not been an especially enjoyable year, but it's been enjoyable being around our football team and our players."

THE TAKEAWAY

Maryland: This was certainly more competitive than Maryland had looked for much of this season, but aside from McFarland, the Terrapins offered little offensively. They scored 142 points in their first two games of the season and 161 in the final 10.

"There's no doubt that we still have a lot of work to do," coach Michael Locksley said. "We closed the chapter to this season and look forward to getting this thing fixed and heading in the right direction. We went shy away from the work."

Michigan State: Dantonio said this week that becoming bowl eligible was basically the minimum standard for his team, and this win felt like that. It was a lot tougher than it needed to be.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
MD	7	0	9	0	16
MSU	3	10	0	6	19

Scoring Summary -----

	MD	MSU
FIRST QUARTER		
MSU FG 10:23 Matt Coghlin 40 Yd Field Goal		3
8 plays, 50 yards, 4:37	0	
MD TD 0:47 Dontay Demus Jr. 44 Yd pass from Josh Jackson (Joseph Petrino Kick)	7	3
2 plays, 59 yards, 0:34		
SECOND QUARTER		
MSU FG 11:45 Matt Coghlin 36 Yd Field Goal		6
10 plays, 57 yards, 4:02	7	
MSU TD 3:08 Brian Lewerke 1 Yd Run (Matt Coghlin Kick)	7	13
12 plays, 73 yards, 4:59		
THIRD QUARTER		
MD FG 12:47 Joseph Petrino 33 Yd Field Goal		13
7 plays, 60 yards, 2:13	10	
MD TD 11:10 Anthony McFarland Jr. 63 Yd Run (Joseph Petrino PAT blocked)	16	13
1 play, 63 yards, 0:12		
FOURTH QUARTER		
MSU FG 9:30 Matt Coghlin 32 Yd Field Goal		16
13 plays, 59 yards, 6:15	16	
MSU FG 2:14 Matt Coghlin 33 Yd Field Goal		19
12 plays, 74 yards, 4:59	16	

Team Stats	MD	MSU
First Downs	15	23
Passes for First	6	18
Rushes for First	7	5
Penalties for First	2	0
Third Down Efficiency	1-11	8-16
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-3	0-1
Total Yards	316	430
Total Plays	57	79
Avg Gain Per Play	5.5	5.4
Net Yards Rushing	164	88
Rushes	29	37
Yards Per Rush	5.7	2.4
Net Yards Passing	152	342
Comp-Att	12-28	30-42
Yards Per Pass	5.4	8.1
Times Sacked	0	4
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-36
Interceptions	1	2
Punts	3	2
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	2	4
Penalty Yards	5	40
Fumbles	2	1
Fumbles Lost	2	0
Time of Poss	22:07	37:53

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
MARYLAND	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Anthony McFarland Jr.	8	134	16.8	1	63		
Javon Leake	10	20	2.0	0	12		
Tyrrell Pigrome	1	9	9.0	0	9		
Josh Jackson	9	8	0.9	0	13		
Tyler DeSue	1	-7	-7.0	0	0		
MICHIGAN ST	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Elijah Collins	15	41	2.7	0	21		
Brian Lewerke	8	26	3.3	1	10		
Anthony Williams Jr.	5	13	2.6	0	11		
Brandon Wright	5	7	1.4	0	5		
Jalen Nailor	2	6	3.0	0	3		
Team	2	-5	-2.5	0	0		
PASSING							
MARYLAND	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Josh Jackson	11	27	141	5.2	1	1	15.2
Tyrrell Pigrome	1	1	11	11.0	0	0	82.2
MICHIGAN ST	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Brian Lewerke	30	41	342	8.3	0	2	66.6
Cody White	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	3.1
RECEIVING							
MARYLAND	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Dontay Demus Jr.	7	96	13.7	1	44		
Brian Cobbs	2	49	24.5	0	40		
Carlos Carriere	1	9	9.0	0	9		
Anthony McFarland Jr.	1	4	4.0	0	4		
Rayshad Lewis	1	-6	-6.0	0	0		
MICHIGAN ST	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Cody White	4	84	21.0	0	27		
Tre Mosley	8	73	9.1	0	19		
Anthony Williams Jr.	5	63	12.6	0	23		
Julian Barnett	3	49	16.3	0	32		
Matt Seybert	4	30	7.5	0	15		
Elijah Collins	2	23	11.5	0	13		
Jalen Nailor	2	14	7.0	0	10		
Trenton Gillison	2	6	3.0	0	6		