

maryland vs ohio state football history

Maryland vs. Ohio State Football History

The football rivalry between the University of Maryland Terrapins and the Ohio State University Buckeyes is one that has evolved over the years, characterized by memorable matchups, significant victories, and a unique place within college football. This article delves into the history of these two programs, exploring their competitive encounters, key moments, and the broader context of their rivalry.

Overview of Both Programs

Maryland Terrapins

The Maryland Terrapins, often referred to as the Terps, have a rich football tradition that dates back to 1887. The program has seen various degrees of success, particularly during the mid-20th century. Maryland has claimed two national championships (in 1953 and 1976) and has produced numerous NFL players, contributing to its reputation as a solid program within college football.

Key highlights of Maryland football include:

- Conference Championships: Maryland has won multiple ACC titles (Atlantic Coast Conference) before joining the Big Ten in 2014.
- Bowl Games: The Terps have participated in a variety of bowl games, including the Orange Bowl and the Citrus Bowl, showcasing their competitive spirit.
- Notable Players: The program has produced NFL talents like Boomer Esiason, Darryl Hill, and Stefon Diggs.

Ohio State Buckeyes

In contrast, the Ohio State Buckeyes are one of the most storied programs in college football history. Established in 1890, Ohio State has claimed multiple national championships and is known for its consistent excellence on the field.

Key highlights of Ohio State football include:

- National Championships: The Buckeyes have won eight national titles, with their most recent championship in 2014.
- Conference Dominance: Ohio State is a powerhouse in the Big Ten Conference, consistently contending for conference titles and playoff berths.
- NFL Pipeline: The program has produced countless NFL stars, including recent talents like Ezekiel Elliott, Joey Bosa, and Dwayne Haskins.

Historical Context of the Rivalry

The Maryland-Ohio State football rivalry began after Maryland joined the Big Ten Conference in 2014. Before this, the two programs had only met a handful of times, with their first encounter dating back to 1975. However, since their inclusion in the same conference, the rivalry has intensified and garnered more attention.

Early Encounters

The early matchups between Maryland and Ohio State were sporadic, with only a few games played in the 1970s and 1980s. Some notable early encounters include:

- 1975: The first meeting took place at Ohio Stadium, where the Buckeyes emerged victorious.
- 1983: The two teams met again, but the game did not have significant implications for either program at the time.

These early games were largely overshadowed by other rivalries within both programs, but they set the stage for future encounters.

Joining the Big Ten Conference

Maryland's move to the Big Ten in 2014 marked a significant turning point in the rivalry. The Terps sought to enhance their competitive profile, and the Buckeyes were eager to expand their reach in the East Coast market. This shift brought about more regular matchups and heightened competition.

Recent Matchups

Since 2014, the Maryland-Ohio State rivalry has been characterized by exciting games, notable performances, and dramatic moments. Here are some key matchups:

2014 Season

- Date: October 4, 2014
- Location: Ohio Stadium, Columbus, OH
- Outcome: Ohio State 52, Maryland 24

In their first Big Ten meeting, the Buckeyes showcased their dominance, led by quarterback J.T. Barrett. Despite a spirited effort from Maryland, Ohio State's depth and talent proved too much.

2016 Season

- Date: November 12, 2016
- Location: Byrd Stadium, College Park, MD
- Outcome: Ohio State 62, Maryland 3

This game further emphasized Ohio State's superiority in the rivalry. The Buckeyes scored early and often, crushing the Terrapins in a lopsided affair, showcasing their defensive prowess and explosive offense.

2018 Season

- Date: October 6, 2018
- Location: Ohio Stadium, Columbus, OH
- Outcome: Ohio State 49, Maryland 3

In another dominant performance, Ohio State continued its trend of overwhelming victories against Maryland. The game highlighted the gap in talent and depth between the two programs.

2019 Season

- Date: November 9, 2019
- Location: Byrd Stadium, College Park, MD
- Outcome: Ohio State 73, Maryland 14

This game was particularly notable for its scoreline, as Ohio State set a record for the most points scored against Maryland in their history. The Buckeyes' offense was relentless, with Justin Fields leading the charge.

2021 Season

- Date: October 9, 2021
- Location: Ohio Stadium, Columbus, OH
- Outcome: Ohio State 66, Maryland 17

In a similar vein, Ohio State continued to dominate the rivalry, showcasing its offensive capabilities and leaving Maryland struggling to keep pace.

Significant Players in the Rivalry

Several players have made their mark in the Maryland vs. Ohio State rivalry, and their performances have shaped the course of these games. Some notable figures include:

- J.T. Barrett (Ohio State): The quarterback had a stellar career at Ohio State and played a significant role in the Buckeyes' success during his tenure, particularly in the early years of the rivalry.
- Justin Fields (Ohio State): As a dynamic playmaker, Fields showcased his dual-threat abilities, leading Ohio State to multiple victories over Maryland.
- Tua Tagovailoa (Maryland): The former Alabama star transferred to Maryland and brought excitement to the program, though he faced tough competition against Ohio State.

The Future of the Rivalry

As college football continues to evolve, the Maryland vs. Ohio State rivalry is likely to remain a key matchup in the Big Ten Conference. With the potential for more dynamic players and competitive teams, fans can expect thrilling encounters in the years to come.

Both programs are investing in their football futures, and as they compete for conference supremacy, the stakes of their matchups will only grow. The rivalry will continue to be significant for both fan bases, providing excitement and anticipation each season.

Conclusion

The Maryland vs. Ohio State football rivalry has developed into a notable competition in college football, marked by intense matchups and significant moments. While Ohio State has historically dominated the series, Maryland's determination to improve and compete at a higher level keeps the rivalry alive. As both programs look to the future, fans can expect continued battles on the gridiron, each adding to the rich history of this burgeoning rivalry.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the all-time series record between Maryland and Ohio State in football?

As of October 2023, Ohio State leads the all-time series against Maryland, with a record of 8 wins to 1 loss.

When did Maryland first join the Big Ten Conference, and how did that impact their rivalry with Ohio State?

Maryland joined the Big Ten Conference in 2014, which intensified their rivalry with Ohio State as they began to compete regularly in conference play.

What was the score of the most recent Maryland vs. Ohio State football game?

In their most recent matchup on October 7, 2023, Ohio State defeated Maryland with a score of 38-17.

Have there been any notable players from Maryland or Ohio State who have excelled in their matchups?

Yes, notable players like Ohio State's J.K. Dobbins and Maryland's Ty Johnson have made significant impacts in their games against each other.

What was a significant upset in the history of Maryland vs. Ohio State football?

One of the most significant upsets occurred on October 4, 2014, when Maryland defeated Ohio State 22-17 in their first meeting as Big Ten rivals.

How have Maryland and Ohio State performed in bowl games historically?

Historically, Ohio State has been more successful in bowl games, with multiple national championships, while Maryland has had fewer appearances and victories in major bowl games.

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