

Washington State Head Coach Jen Greeny

Opening Statement

"I'm very proud of this team for beating a very, very good Florida State team. I thought we came out pretty well. It was a little shaky, we got to go to some extra points there in the first set. In the second set, we were definitely more relaxed, our serving picked up. We made some kind of silly errors in the third set and then got back to Cougar volleyball in the fourth set. Very proud of this team and just advancing."

On Selection Sunday nerves...

"I think we were feeling confident because of our RPI but any time your fate is in the hands of a committee, I think you're of course a little bit nervous. And there's always nerves in that room because you don't know where you're going, who you're playing, anything like that. So I was really happy that we were announced at the beginning of the show, it's always a nice thing. It's like, 'Oh thank God you're not the last eight announced or something like that.' Yeah, even though we thought RPI-wise that we were going to be in it was nice to hear our name."

On the importance of winning the first set in the first match of the NCAA Tournament...

"Absolutely, I thought to be able to pull that out was huge for us. It's definitely great to win the set, but it's much worse to lose it. Especially we were up by quite a few points, they came back, the momentum shifted a lot, and there were some great rallies. But anytime you can take the first set, especially in a battle like that, I mean we ran out of subs. [Freshman outside hitter] Savannah Smith had to serve, which she has done one other time when we ran out of subs. So that was huge, and we had some great defensive plays and some good blocks, some great timing in that, great momentum to be able to carry that in to set two. We had a little extra rest during that game-break too. I told everyone to take some rest and have a snack."

On seeing former Washington State Athletic Director Bill Moos at the match...

"I thought he was going to send a limo to pick us up, that didn't happen, so I'll have to have some words with him about that. I did get to see him for a quick moment, it was great to see him. Of course we miss him a lot but very happy for him and you guys here at Nebraska to gain a great athletic director. Maybe he was singing the fight song just a little under his breath for us, maybe, he probably can't do that tomorrow. But yeah, it was great to see him and glad that he is here, not for us, but for you."

Taylor Mims, Junior, Outside Hitter

On competing in back-to-back NCAA tournaments and what is different this year...

I would say the players on the court are completely changed. But I think the way we work through it is pretty good. I like it a lot."

On winning the first set...

"I think it was huge, it was a big momentum shift, I feel, onto the second set. Those crazy rallies as you guys saw, I think they really kept us in the game. The crowd got involved and got us pumped up so I think it was really important. "

On why she had a successful night...

"I think our back-row-attack connection works pretty well. I think that's the best I've ever hit out of the back row this entire season. I think that really kept us going and our defense really picked up as well and that gives us the option to run our offense. "

On Selection Sunday nerves...

"Yeah, there were a couple nerves. I knew that going throughout the season our stats and conference wins weren't really the best but we hoped for the best and I think we deserved it and fought hard at the end. I think this team really deserves it with how much hard work we put in."

On her game-time snack of choice...

"These little things called Stingers. Stingers. They are these little jelly-things that give you energies. And I usually eat these waffles. Those are my main snacks."

Ashley Brown, Sophomore, Setter**On how her role has changed this season...**

Yeah, I feel comfortable. It took a little bit of getting used to at first but I think that we are gelling with it now and I think we are playing really good. "

On Selection Sunday nerves...

"I was a little nervous throughout the day, I won't lie. I was actually holding Taylor's hand during the Selection Show. But yeah, it was awesome to get in."

On having four teammates in double figures and her role in that success...

"I got to give credit to the passers on that one, and our defense, because you can't hit that well and your hitting percentage can't be that high without the first contact being good. So that was awesome and that gave me an opportunity to be able to run my offense and set all three hitters, or two hitters if I'm in the front row, pretty much the entire time. Credit to them."

On playing in a packed Devaney Center tomorrow night and how this win helps prepare for that...

"It definitely prepares us. I think we know that the atmosphere is going to be crazy, loud and exciting but I think that having a game underneath our belt in the lights and on that floor will help us a lot tomorrow."