

**Oregon Press Conference Quotes**  
**NCAA Omaha Regional**  
**Saturday, Dec. 8**

**Head Coach Jim Moore**

*Opening Statement*

“First of all, congratulations to Nebraska. They’re a great team. Awesome team, awesome program. John (Cook) is a great coach. But I said it to the players before we came here, I’ve always felt that Nebraska fans are – I can’t say the best because I’m at Oregon right now – have always been some of the best fans in the country. I believe they’re the most knowledgeable fans in the country and just a great event that was put on. Spectacular environment – we couldn’t ask for anymore for a regional, so appreciate that very much. Real good job by these guys.”

*On tonight’s matchup against Nebraska*

“One of the debates was to put Alaina (Bergsma) on Lauren Cook and let her just swing. We generally start in rotation one, which is what we did. There have been times during the season that rotation six has given us – it’s actually never given us issue, but Lauren Plum thinks it’s an issue. So she’s concerned about it. Last night, Liz (Brenner) was having such a good night on BYU’s setter, so we debated back and forth, and I asked Lauren right before, I said ‘Is it more important for you to have Liz up on the setter in rotation six or to put Alaina on Lauren Cook?’ And she went with having Liz up on Lauren in rotation six rather than switching. After we lost game one, I debated real hard whether I should switch back, but I didn’t think it had anything to do with matchups. So we stayed where we were and stayed in that same rotation.”

*On Oregon’s defensive progression*

“I think we just got tougher. I don’t think we were nervous. I was actually a little concerned before the match – we weren’t nervous at all. I think they were calm and they thought they were supposed to have more emotion, so they might have calmed down too much. They had a couple of things in the beginning, and then it was like ‘OK, what’s going on?’ And we just kind of lost focus in that first set. I think we came out – it wasn’t the crowd, it wasn’t anything – we just calmed down a little bit too much, which was OK.”

*On Alaina Bergsma’s performance*

“That’s scary. It really is. I told Lauren she didn’t get to set anybody at the end. I said ‘Set her every single ball.’ We’ve just grown to expect it. We want to distribute the ball, and we want to get the ball to everybody because it does make Alaina’s life easier. But Liz did not have one of her best nights, and to have Kat (Fischer) and Ari (Williams) and Alaina step up the way they did, that was unbelievable.”

*On a trip to the Final Four being a milestone*

“It’s great. It’s a milestone, but it’s one step along the way. I really do mean that. I said this to the players, that I live with my assistant coach, so it makes it rather interesting at times. She doesn’t get very excited very often, and she got pretty excited when we won, and I didn’t. I went over and shook John’s hand as we’re still playing. I get to coach these four seniors at least two more days, three more days, so I’m pretty happy about that.”

*On responding to Nebraska's run in the fourth set*

"That's where I think they showed their toughness. I called the timeout at 11-9 and they sat down and nobody was going crazy, worried. I think they just thought, 'One at a time, one at a time, one at a time.' That's what they did. I was real impressed. They stayed within themselves, except for maybe the beginning of game one."

*On the matchup with Penn State at the NCAA Semifinals*

"They're real good. We don't know very much about them other than that we saw them a year ago. Russ (Rose) is without question the best coach there is, and they're incredibly well coached. I actually had an opportunity to watch a little bit before it started, and dealing with those hitters is going to be a task to say the least. One at a time."

*On Oregon's hitters*

"I've always subscribed that the best defense is good offense. So the way we put pressure on people is just siding out. We just try to sideout, sideout, sideout, so if we can sideout, they can't beat us. At least be tied for a long time. We proved that at Washington."

**Senior Outside Hitter Alaina Bergsma**

*On adjusting after game one*

"You could say it was nerves or something like that, but I think we came out just making a couple of errors we don't normally make. We kind of got down on ourselves. Once we just calmed down, but more so just started fighting and just playing the game we know how to play, is what really just changed for us."

*On the reaction from fans back home*

"Obviously people are going to be excited. Our phones are blowing up. People are excited. This is something that's never happened for our program, but we know that we're not done yet."

*On going to Oregon's first NCAA Final Four*

"Obviously I feel very honored. We talk a lot about our alumni and people that came in to really turn this program around. A couple of years ago, Oregon wasn't even in the top half of the Pac-12. So for us, it means a lot being that team that got it turned around. It proves to the nation that we're a team to be reckoned with."

*On being nervous for tonight's match*

"I think coming in we weren't nervous at all, but we made a couple of those errors and then you start second guessing yourself for a couple of points and then they take off. Nebraska's a really good team, and if you give them any lead way, they're going to take over. I think we stopped doing that in the second game."

*On playing in the Pac-12*

"We talked about it – emptying the tank. We empty everything we have and then we have a couple of days before we do it again the next weekend. That's exactly what we've been doing all season. We've been playing two back-to-back nights against top-ranked teams. I think that definitely prepared us."

**Junior Setter Lauren Plum***On the end of the fourth set*

"I can't say enough about our passing. Our passing was fabulous. I was able to set anyone I wanted to and it's really hard to stop any one of these guys on either end of the pins, so I'm just really grateful for the passing game that we had tonight. I'm really proud of all these girls putting the ball almost every time I needed it."

*On passing making a difference*

"I think they got really into the game. It was really fun. It was a really fun game to set especially."

*On Oregon's defense*

"I think our defense – after game one, we just said enough is enough. We're leaving everything on the floor. One of our themes before the game was empty the tank. We just stayed right on our bases and let them make the mistakes that they made."

*On tonight's crowd*

"I think this was obviously the biggest crowd we've played in front of, but we've had a few hostile environments playing in the Pac-12. We have a little bit of practice, and it was a lot of noise, but it was fun. It was really fun."

**Junior Middle Blocker Ariana Williams***On slowing down Nebraska in games three and four*

"It helped a lot. The touches help our defense a lot, and that helps me a lot because I can transition hit. It was very good that we started touching more balls after we got more into it."

*On adjusting to Nebraska's hitters*

"We just have to get over the net and touch the balls. Sometimes you just get out of it and focus a little bit. But once we got that back, it worked great."

*On playing in front of a large crowd*

"It was pretty tough. There's a lot of people, and they're all cheering for Nebraska. We all just thought they were cheering for us, like 'Yeah, go Oregon, they're cheering for us the whole time.' It was fun to play in front of such a big crowd."