

**NCAA VOLLEYBALL FIRST ROUND**  
**Campbell Postgame Quotes**  
**Friday, Dec. 3, 2021**

**Head Coach Greg Goral**

***Opening Statement***

“It was a great experience, as you guys know, here in Nebraska. The fanbase is amazing, and I’ve said it a couple times to guys on radio and TV, if we’re going to go somewhere for our first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance, I wouldn’t want it to be anywhere else than somewhere where they truly appreciate volleyball. To have 7,000 fans cheering when you do something well regardless of the team is a great feeling. I knew if we played well that we would have our opportunities and that we would enjoy our experience. I couldn’t ask for anything more from our players; they played their hearts out, and obviously we weren’t as consistent as we needed to be. Nebraska is the best passing and defensive team in the conference, and so it was hard to get them out of system and score points off our serve. We’re a good serving team, but it was very hard to stop Nebraska’s offense when they were in system most of the time. That was the difference, and I think once we got in the transition game, we gave ourselves opportunities to score. But again, you can’t make mistakes, can’t hit balls out-of-bounds, can’t hit balls low on the block. I’m proud of the way our team fought through all three sets, especially at the end, and that resilience is something we’ve had all season and the reason we’re sitting here and not someone else in the conference.”

***On Nebraska’s middles***

“They’re just higher than our middles, so they could hang a little longer and decide where they wanted to hit. We weren’t going to bunch too much and let the pins have a free net. At times when we knew the middles were coming, we were able to middle block it, but even then, because of the physicality and the ability to hang for long periods of time, they could see what we were taking away and hit the hit opposite direction. Anything off-speed we were able to clean up but the in-system, one-on-one looks were definitely hard to stop. Second set, Mel [Melody Paige] took away some swings from zone one, and we were trying to identify what they were trying to do and slowed them down enough that they started going away from the middles, which is what we needed to stay in the match.”

***On his team’s first NCAA Tournament appearance***

“It means everything. I took over this program nine years ago, and it was once of the worst in Division I volleyball. It’s been a lot of hard work, and gradually getting better every year, recruiting across the country, getting better athletes and teammates every year helped get us to this point. Now we’ve got the culture and the players we need to compete at a higher level, so when we won our conference title, it was overwhelming, the amount of emotion I had. It’s such a long journey, and every day looking up at the rafters and not seeing a volleyball title for our school ever was a driving force to get that done. Even now, that trophy is sitting on my desk, and every time I look at it, a big smile comes on my face. It just takes some perseverance and the will to get it done and the right people, and I couldn’t be prouder of our group. Especially our seniors, they have pushed this team to be competitive throughout, and we won

several matches this season that we were down and came back. Even in our conference championship against High Point, we were down and grinded out sets four and five. It showed in our match tonight that we weren't going to just give it up, and this group now has the taste, and we're going to work hard to get back here."

**Sophomore Chloe Cook**

***On the experience of playing at the Devaney Center***

"It was really cool, in simple terms. In eighth grade I was watching Nebraska's fifth-year players, Lexi Sun and Lauren Stivrins, and looking up to them, and now you're staring at them from across the net. It's just a really cool experience to play across from a group of respected players."

**Junior Lailah Green**

***On Nebraska's physicality***

"They're very long and very physical, so their blocking is impeccable, so we just have to hit more shots since they're so long and talented. There's not much that we could do at the end, but I feel like we held on and pushed a few points toward the end."