

Stony Brook Head Coach Kristin Belzung

Opening Statement

“Honestly I don’t have a ton. Other than, for our group, and having the opportunity to play in the NCAA Tournament for the first time, this has been an amazing experience, we said from the start, we are thankful for the opportunity to come to Nebraska. I think if you are looking in the world of volleyball, to get the right experience in front of this kind of crowd, there is no place better. I’m thankful that our group got the opportunity to do this and compete in front of this group [of people]. Obviously I would have loved to see a different result but Nebraska is a heck of a team, offensively they had a heck of a night, we tried to do as much as we possibly could to dig balls. Unfortunately it wasn’t enough tonight.”

On Nebraska’s challenging serving...

“It’s a different animal to be honest with you. Just from a physicality standpoint, they are serving the ball at a different angle. So that’s part of it. And then it’s just a little different pace than what we are used to seeing. It’s hard to replicate that in the gym, so getting into the environment, we talked about tracking as much as we possibly could. To be honest with you, this is a completely different arena setup than what we have seen before. So just tracking the ball in this kind of environment, it’s different.”

McKyla Brooks, Junior, Middle Hitter

On playing in first NCAA Tournament...

It was unreal. It was hard to put into thought. We’ve never been here before. This is an absolutely amazing experience. It was different, it was really, really different going into this week and going to practice and focusing more on what we know how to do and our process throughout our practices. I thought it was more of a challenge this week.

On the highlight of the day...

“I believe just sticking as a team, doing what we know best, getting after it and having fun was the main thing tonight. Like [Coach Belzung] said, I wish the outcome was better but it was still fun to experience this with our team. “

Kiani Kerstetter, Freshman, Libero

On playing in first NCAA Tournament...

“I guess it didn’t really feel real until I got here. After I found out that we were playing Nebraska I got super excited because I’ve been watching them on TV for the past few years, and I was just really excited so in practice I was ready to dig balls and get better and I was just really excited to come here and play in this environment.”

On playing in the Devaney Center...

“It was amazing. After hearing that crowd, they were so loud and I’ve never experienced anything like it. But it was so much fun and I had a great time.”