



## 2023 NCAA Baseball Nashville Regional

Postgame Quotes  
Game 4 • June 3, 2023  
#2 Oregon vs. #1 Vanderbilt



### **#2 Oregon Ducks**

**Head Coach Mark Wasikowski**

**Opening statement...**

"Really proud of the way the team I represent and get to coach every day responded to a really great college baseball game and really good environment. They didn't back down to anything, played their hearts out and came out with a win. A lot of blessings that came out of tonight's game and excited to be able to represent these guys that are really a special group."

**On starting pitcher Turner Spoljaric...**

"Credit to [pitching] Coach [Jake] Angier and Turner. He's always been good. He was really good before he got here. With a lot of these young guys—and even some of the older guys—it really does come down to believing in yourself and trusting that you're good. Especially in today's game, you'll see young people from both sides with their confidence waiver from time to time. That's the big deal in coaching or in playing. When you figure that out, that's it right there. When you can just go out and trust that you're a good player or good pitcher and trust in your ability and all your preparation. Those are usually the best players on the field and tonight Turner was one of the best players on the field."

**On the three-run first inning...**

"Hunter Owen is a really good pitcher and we know he's a really good pitcher. We just wanted to show up and get after Vanderbilt. They're really good, we know everyone in the regionals are good. Coach [Tim] Corbin is a friend of mine and I respect him very much. At the end of the day, it's a competitive venue and the objective is to win. We were just excited to be able to come out of the gates like that. I think it was important. Obviously we needed to do a lot more than that because Vanderbilt's a good team and they kept coming back. That's just a credit to how good their program is."

**Turner Spoljaric • Fr. • Pitcher**

**On having pitched in a high-pressure game at the Pac-12 Tournament...**

"Definitely [helped]. Just being comfortable. I had to settle in early in the game. I was kind of coming out of myself a little bit. Coach [Wasikowski] helped me and just said 'attack and believe in what you're throwing.' Pitching in Arizona helped settle my nerves and meant a ton for me."

**On getting early run support, as well as defensive support...**

"It helps a ton. These guys are special. It's a really great group of people on this team. We're all very close. If they go out and put up runs, I want to go out and have a shutdown inning, put up a zero and keep the momentum going. It's awesome pitching with the talent I have behind me."

**Jacob Walsh • So. • First Baseman**

**On the defensive performance...**

"Sabin [Ceballos]'s play [to end the seventh] was awesome. Gavin Grant made a bunch of plays. Our outfield was locked down tonight. That's the most important thing out there, minimizing [runs]."

**On his three-run double...**

"I was just trying to get after it early. He left a fastball over the plate and I hit it."

### **#1 Vanderbilt Commodores**

**Head Coach Tim Corbin**

**On what could have been done differently...**

"We hit the ball well. We hit the ball to the middle part of the field about as hard as we could. The effort of the kids and their attack to the ball was good. We just didn't get the big hit when we needed it. But I thought our at-bats were pretty good. We were making hard contact. We were certainly, I thought, were mentally ready to get back into that ball game. I didn't doubt at all that we wouldn't. I thought that we won that game and I think the kids did too. We just came up short."

**On pitching...**

"[Bennett] Thomspson's ball took off. It jumped off his bat. He hit the ball well. He spun it well. It was a good at-bat, really a lot of their at-bats. And [Colby] Shade fouled off 200 balls, I mean, he had an 11- and a 13-pitch at-bat. Those are pretty good at-bats right there. They're a good offensive team. We handed them a couple runs early, but they earned those four runs. But I thought Grayson Moore did a hell of a job. He pitched really well to keep the game right where it was. But, you know what, we gotta move forward."

**On possibly facing Oregon again this weekend...**

"Just not let them hit as well. We gotta pitch better. We gotta execute better than what we did in the first part of the game. I thought Grayson Moore pitched really well after the fifth. He executed well, landed his breaking ball and mixed the ball up pretty well. We just didn't execute really well at the beginning of the game. We competed. Hunter [Owen] certainly competes. But you can tell he wasn't as sharp as he has been in the past."

**On Hunter Owen...**

"You gotta give them credit. I mean, that's a good hitting team. They're physical. They're like the teams we see in our league, physical, can move. [Rikuu] Nishida gets on base. He's tough to keep off base, good player."

**On the health of Hunter Owen and Ryan Ginther...**

"They're fine. I'm sure Hunter Owen would've liked to build up more volume getting to this point in the season, but he didn't have the ability to. So he's just doing the best he can."

**On moving forward in the regional compared to the SEC tournament...**

"Whether we won or lost tonight, it's still the same thing. It's a one-game regional. That's all it is. It was a one-game tournament when we lost to Florida, and that's how you have to look at it. We're wired for this. I don't worry about that. But the toughest game tomorrow is gonna be the first one, Xavier. We gotta mentally and physically be ready to play."