

March 30, 2009

Sony Ericsson Open

C. WOZNIACKI/E. Dementieva

7-5, 6-4

An interview with:

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

Q. That 4-All game was really huge. You had a bunch of game points. What happened there, and how were you able to sort of close that game?

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: You know, it was just a really long game, and I think was up 40-15 on my own serve. I didn't manage to close it out. She played some good points.

You know, I just kept fighting and playing for every point. Yeah, I don't know, just turned out in my favor this time.

Q. She hits a very big groundstroke. What was the strategy? Was it to move, to stay in the point?

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yeah, it was just to stay in the point and wait for my own chance. You know, I'm also trying to hit big from the baseline, so I knew it was going to be a match with long rallies.

I've played her before. Last time I lost to her 7-6 in the third set, so, yeah, I knew what I was going into. It was just, yeah, keep fighting.

Q. You split with Kuznetsova, right, the two matches you played? What kind of match do you think that will be? Shes look like she's serving a lot better this tournament.

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yeah, she's serving and playing really well. It's going to be a tough match. She's a great player and an experienced player, and she's playing aggressive.

I will need to stay in the point and try to move her and just play my game.

Q. This has got to be all very exciting for you at this point. You won an award for your performance last year, and you're just taking this great ride. What has this whole ride been like for you?

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: It's been really great. I'm just enjoying every day and every match that I'm playing. That I keep winning is just great. I just felt like I was playing really well today. I just got everything together.

Yeah, I'm really happy. Hopefully I can continue, but we'll see. Yeah, I'll try.

Q. Seems like this tournament is quite open to anybody. Do you think you have a good chance to win this tournament?

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: I don't know. You know, I don't really look too much forward. I just look for the next match, and we'll see how far I can go.

Q. You live and train in Atlanta; is that right?

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: No. I've been training now the last -- before Indian Wells I was training two weeks in Las Vegas with Gil Reyes and the adidas development program. It was really great.

It was my first time, and for sure I'm going to come back there.

Q. Can you talk about when you felt like your career really started pulling off? What happened, and at what stage did you feel that?

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: I think it was last year already from Australian Open where I made it to the fourth round. I was around, I don't know, 68 and, you know. I just made it to the fourth round and I got to believe in myself that I could really, you know, do well.

Then I finished the year 12th in the world winning three WTA tournaments. That just helped it all. I just think from then on it just started.

Q. You're right on the edge of the top 10 now. Was that always a goal for you, and how does it feel?

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: No, I mean, it

feels amazing to me that I'm the No. 12 in the world. As a little girl growing up I was always watching everyone on TV, the top 20 players, and I wanted to be that girl as well.

You know, breaking the top 20 was a big thing for me, and now I'm number 12. Top 10 would be the next step. For sure that's my goal. I'm trying to do that. We'll see.

Q. Is it right that no Danish player has been in the top 10 before, right?

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: No one has ever been in the top 20 or 30, so yeah, it's the first time.

Q. You're writing history here as you go with every win.

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yeah.

Q. Good for you.

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