

FAMILY CIRCLE CUP

35th Anniversary

Charleston, SC

@ Daniel Island

April 19, 2008



A Family Circle Magazine Premier Event

A POST-MATCH INTERVIEW WITH:

ELENA DEMENTIEVA

**Vera Zvonareva defeats Elena Dementieva
6-3, 6-7 (2), 6-3
Semifinal Round**

Q. Elena, you fought back hard in that second set. Just can you talk about the match in the third set?

ELENA DEMENTIEVA: Well, I feel like, you know, from the beginning I just had a slow start, and it was very difficult to come back in the second set. I mean it took a lot of energy from me, so with a 2-0 lead in the third set, I mean I just didn't feel how important is the next game, you know. I just let myself, you know, like little time out, and afterwards it was too late, you know. She was on fire. I think she played really well today. It seems like she's very ready for the clay court season, moving so well, and you know, the whole game was pretty solid. So for

me if you want to beat someone like her, you really have to play from the first point till the end, and I had like ups and downs in my game, and it was very difficult because she was always up, you know, in the score, and it just put a lot of pressure on me.

Q. Was the wind kind of bothering you today? It was really gusting out there.

ELENA DEMENTIEVA: Well, actually, it was not so bad. We expected it to be worse, so it was okay. It was the same for both of us.

Q. Even with all that being said, when you won the tiebreaker with relative ease, were you feeling fairly confident going into the last set?

ELENA DEMENTIEVA: Well, I mean after winning in a tiebreak, I feel like I played really well in the tiebreak and 2-0 lead. So I just had to continue to play, you know, so aggressively and try to be positive. And I was like, I started to feel like, oh, I'm getting tired, but that's not how you're going to win the match, so you really have to stay till the end, especially against Vera. She's such a fighter. So, well, losing like five games in a row, it's kind of such a big advantage, in the third set, so it was really difficult to come back afterwards.

Q. You had some really good wins leading into this in straight sets, like Azarenka, Schnyder. Do you still take away positives from this week?

ELENA DEMENTIEVA: Well, I really think it was a very good first clay

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court tournament, and I already had some good matches here. Even today I think it was a good match against Vera, but she's in great shape, and I just wish her the best of luck in the finals, so yeah, just I feel like I need to work a little bit harder, but it feels good to be here.

AMY BINDER: Any other questions?
Thank you.

ELENA DEMENTIEVA: Thank you.

END OF INTERVIEW

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