

April 14, 2009



An Interview With:

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON

AKGUL AMANMURADOVA defeats ALEXANDRA STEVENSON
6-2, 6-4
1st Round

KEVIN FISCHER: Questions for Alexandra.

Q. To start with, can you just talk about the match, when you tried to fight back in the second set, and what made the difference for her?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: Well, she was serving well the whole time, and I didn't serve well. So she controlled the court better than me, and I didn't step in and control the ball or hit many first serves. I think I had like 40 percent first serves in, so that was a big difference.

Q. We were all told this is the first time your dad watched you play. Is that true, and how was it for you out there?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: Yes. That is true, and I actually didn't even see him until the second set (laughs). So I think he was sitting up at the top.

It was fine. I mean lots of people are watching, so it was a nice crowd out there.

Q. Did that make you nervous at all that he was there?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: No.

Q. Did that change anything?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: No.

Q. Could you tell us what your plans are for the rest of the summer, your career, your goals for this year?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: Well, my goals are to get back in the Top 100. And I am just going to play as many tournaments as I can get into, because the cuts are really tough this year.

And I'm going to go over to Europe and play on the clay. It's the first time I've done that in five years, I think. So I'm going to go do that, hopefully.

And there's a challenger next week in Dothan, Alabama. I'll play that. And then go over for the grass, and then the hard court season in the United States.

Q. Did your dad say anything to you, or why did he decide to come here? Was there any story to that?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: It's close to Atlanta. He lives in Atlanta. So it's four hours. And it's a nice tournament. And he actually wanted to come to one of the challengers, and I was like, I don't think you should come there. We play on like public parks, and some of them are a bit sketchy.

So this is probably a nice tournament to come to, and I think he knows the tournament director, Bob Moran, and he just picked this tournament.

Q. A lot has been written and said about your relationship with your dad. Are you guys in a good place now? How do you feel about where you are with him?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: Well, we were never in a bad place. I just didn't know him. (Laughs). So it's good now. I mean obviously it's still odd, because you're getting to know somebody, but it's nice that I know him, and he is supporting me out here, coming to watch me play.

And he can see how hard tennis is. (Laughs). It's not like basketball where you have a whole team of support. So it's nice that he came out here.

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Kelly McKee Smith
kadmc@yahoo.com

Q. Can you tell us specifically what you're doing? Are you working with a coach? Are you with IMG in Academy?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: No. Right now, I don't have an agent. I live in Los Angeles.

And I had a great hitting coach, Steven Dean. He works at The Players Club. He worked with me this whole week here, but usually on the road it's just my mom and me right now, because as you all know probably, tennis is an expensive sport. So I have to get a sponsor and then things can change.

Q. The girl you were playing today, very physically imposing. Is her game the same way?

ALEXANDRA STEVENSON: She's a big girl. So I mean I'm considered a big girl, and I looked petit (laughs), which I guess is always nice.

But she served well, and I've never played her or seen her play before, and she is a tough first round. So that was the luck of the draw, and you have to play any time anywhere, and I didn't do so well today, so just have to do well next time.

End of Transcript

TRANSCRIPTS PROVIDED BY:

***Kelly McKee Smith
kadmck@yahoo.com***