

**April 18, 2009**



An Interview With:

**CAROLINE WOZNIACKI**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI defeats ELENA DEMENTIEVA  
6-4, 5-7, 7-5  
Semifinal Round

DANNY KENDALL: We'll take questions for Caroline, please.

**Q. At 5-2 in the second set you served for the match, and she broke you, and then she saved three match points at 3-5. What were you thinking after that game, because that's when she rattled off the five games to win that set.**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yeah. I mean at 5-2 I didn't really have a chance to do anything there. She made some good returns, so I think I lost it to love.

And then at 5-3, you know, 40-0 for me and I thought now I have the match. You just need to continue, but you know, it didn't turn out that way.

She played aggressive. She played some good tennis at that point, and at 5-4, I knew I had to close it out, and you know, I was a little bit nervous because now I knew, you know, now was the only chance I could to close it out, and she wins that, and she started to play some really good tennis, aggressive and doesn't make so many errors, and you know, she wins the set, and I'm not really happy about that.

But my dad and coach comes into the court, and just tells me to stay positive, and you know, she was playing some good tennis, aggressive, and he was telling me that I needed to step up again, because I started to just put the

balls back and play her game instead of playing my game, and that's why she was winning.

**Q. The two double faults at 5-4 when you were serving for the match, was that sun or?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yeah. The sun was right there, so it was difficult to see from that side when you threw the balls up, you know. Then of course, I had to get to thinking don't make a double fault now, and then it always happens. So you know first it was the sun, and then you know, I started to think, you know, not to make a double fault.

**Q. Could you feel some fan support, and what do you think of the Charleston fans?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yeah. Definitely. I mean, you know, when she came back, everyone was rooting for her, most people, because they wanted a long match. So that's normal. So but you know, then when it was one set all, it was 50/50 again, you know it's an amazing crowd out there. So many people, and it's amazing that so many fans come out and cheer for me every single day, so yeah, it feels amazing to be here in Charleston.

**Q. After being up fairly comfortably and then having her come back, did you lose confidence at any point?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: You know, I don't know if I lost confidence. I just -- she was playing well, and I knew that I had to change something because this was not working. Then I started to play a little bit more aggressive in the middle of the third set, and you know, that paid off.

**Q. Would you give us a play-by-play of the tumble?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Sorry?

**Q. Your tumble.**

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DANNY KENDALL: When you fell.

**Q. In the first set.**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Oh, you know, she made a drop shot, I think, and I ran for the ball, and I wanted to take it, but then, you know, as I was sliding, my foot just stopped, and yeah, and I fell over. It was lucky that I fell, because if I didn't fall, then I would have twisted my ankle. So yeah, it was a good reflex.

**Q. How did the forehand on match point feel, the last match point?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Oh, it felt so good (laughs). You know, I only had that shot, you know, to win the point because she was covering the whole net, so I only had like this much space to put it in, you know, and when I saw it go through, I just knew that it was going to go in. It felt great.

**Q. Was your game plan today the same as you had a couple of weeks ago in Miami when you played her?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yes. It was kind of the same, but it's still a little bit different on clay than on hard courts, but yeah, the main things were the same.

**Q. Were you surprised how she was able to attack you late in the second set and in most of the third set too?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: No, because you know, she has a great forehand, and I knew that she was going to take advantage of her forehand, you know. So my game plan was just, you know, not to let that happen, and you know, as that happened, I started losing the point, so you know, when I changed my tactics again, then I started winning and that paid off.

**Q. You have a final tomorrow, and this was a three-hour match. Can you tell me what you are going to do tonight to --**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Oh, I'm so tired now. (Laughs). You know, I'm going to get a massage now. I'm going to just get a quick flush and eat very well, and then I need to get my feet up in the air and just relax.

**Q. Do you think fatigue will be a factor tomorrow?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: It hasn't been a factor until now, and I've played quite a lot of matches, so I hope I can pull the last one through.

Again, I've worked so hard physically, so I mean I hope I can take the last match now.

**Q. One more quick off-the-wall question. I noticed players this week and I'm a tennis newbie, but you seem to have the same outfit every day. Is that a thing of luck or is it just --**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: No. I'm actually not wearing the same shirt every day. It's a different shirt, but just the same colors.

You know, it's Adidas, they are my sponsor, and they want me to promote this line, so that's why I'm wearing this.

**Q. They don't have any other colors for that line, though?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: They do, but they want to promote this, and that's what they want people to buy, so when they see me in this, hopefully people will start saying, this looks good, this looks cute, so then they start buying this shirt instead of another.

**Q. I just wanted you to take us back to after the second set and you lost that. Your father came over. He seemed pretty emotional in terms of trying to rally you for the third? Can you share a little more about what he was saying both in terms of encouraging but also in terms of strategy?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yeah. He also said stay positive. Now you lost the second set, you know, and you can't do anything about it now, you know. You just need to think next point, next point, and then he just said, you know, you need to step in a little bit because she is controlling the game. So you need to do something about that, and you know, hit a little bit harder, change your racquet because maybe the strings aren't -- you know, the tension is not right anymore.

So you know, I changed the racquet, and it felt good.

**Q. You don't make a lot of noise when you play, but some other players like Dementieva makes a little noise, a lot of noise**

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**really. Does that bother you when you play someone like that?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Actually, you don't really hear that. You're just so focused on the little round ball that, you know, you just don't really hear the other opponent scream.

**Q. How deflating is it mentally to know you're within a minute of winning the match and now you have to play another hour?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Yeah. It's devastating. (Laughs). No, I mean you know that you're so close. You know, you have the card in front of you and you just need to take it, you know, grab it, and it just slipped away.

Then to start over again, it's really tough mentally, but I hung in there, you know, and as the third set continued, I saw, you know, I need to take this chance. I haven't been fighting here for two-and-a-half hours just to give it away. I was like, you know, I don't give up yet.

**Q. Most of these other players have cats and dogs. Some of them bring them on tour. Do you have any pets either at home or that you bring on tour?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: My brother and his girl friend have a dog, and it's kind of living at our place, so I see it as my dog, but it doesn't travel with me, unfortunately.

**Q. What's its name?**

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI: Ellie. It's a girl.

DANNY KENDALL: Thank you.

End of transcript...

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