

**April 19, 2009**



An Interview With:

**SABINE LISICKI**

Sabine Lisicki defeats Caroline Wozniacki  
6-2, 6-4  
Final Round

KEVIN FISCHER: Go ahead with questions, please.

**Q. Sabine, just the emotion that you let rip out there after match point, just talk about your feelings and what was going through your mind as you were rolling around on the clay there.**

SABINE LISICKI: Well, I really couldn't believe that I won, you know, because I didn't use my first match points, obviously, you know, and then I finally won, I don't know which match point it was, seventh, eighth. I don't know. It felt like 30th, but I was just so happy that I won, and I couldn't really believe that I won a tournament.

**Q. What does this do for you going forward? I mean how much are your expectations enhanced now for the rest of the year?**

SABINE LISICKI: You know, for me, it gives me a lot of confidence.

I worked so hard the last couple weeks, months, and it's finally paying off, so you know, I don't put the pressure too much on me now because you know, I just want to go out there, fight and enjoy being on the court as I do now.

**Q. Obviously you're in this tour for a reason, but this specific tournament, after you beat Venus, did you figure you know what, this is something I can do and maybe I'm going to do, win this tournament?**

SABINE LISICKI: Yeah. You know, last year I had a couple of good wins, I beat Lindsay Davenport, Safina, Chakvetadze. I knew I had the game to beat those players, so now I think I'm more mature to win the whole tournament. Before I was probably a little bit too nervous, but you know, you learn.

**Q. Were you nervous in the last set, at the end of the second set?**

SABINE LISICKI: The last couple points, yes, but other than that, no.

**Q. Is it just maturity, or has anything changed in your game? Are you doing anything differently nowadays?**

SABINE LISICKI: Well, I've worked a lot on my fitness and also on the fine-tuning of my ground strokes to place them even better. And you know, you see the games. You look how the other players play, and when you played them, you obviously learn what they're doing better than you, and you know, I just took this and I improved so much. I worked in the off season, my butt off (laughs), and now it really pays off.

**Q. I was told that the other final that you were in, you had match point, and you couldn't close it out. Did that enter your mind when you started letting those match points here slip away or because that was so far gone you were only focused on today?**

SABINE LISICKI: Well, last time in Tashkent, I had one match point, and I missed the shot, but I really fought for it back then already. There was nothing I could have said, you know. No, I just pushed the ball in and that's why I lost. So I really this time also told myself, you just have to keep fighting for every single point. Don't let it get you in the way of winning that match.

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**Q. Congratulations on your win. Can you tell us what you will be doing for the rest of the summer, your schedule?**

SABINE LISICKI: Well, tomorrow I'm flying back to Germany, and I'm going to play Fed Cup in Frankfurt. For me it will be the first time playing Fed Cup at home, so it will be exciting.

After that I'll play Stuttgart, another tournament in Germany. And afterwards, I'm not sure. I think I will play Estoril and Warsaw and then French Open.

**Q. I know it's all about taking one match at a time, but when you showed up here and got here, realistically what were your expectations of what would happen in this tournament?**

SABINE LISICKI: To be honest, I told my mom before the tournament, I really want to play Venus, and I think that I have the game to beat her here.

That's what I thought, that you know, I can reach the quarters here. I came with that here because I really felt well, so I felt that I was hitting the ball well, and that I was playing good.

So when I got into the match against Venus, I really thought I could win and then I just kept rolling.

**Q. Normally it would appear that your game would be better suited for hard courts, but you couldn't have played much better than you have the last few matches here, so what is your favorite surface?**

SABINE LISICKI: Well, I really like hard court, but I wouldn't say I don't like clay, not only because of this, but I think I just need some time to get used to the clay, but then I really can play good on any surface, I think. I haven't played much on grass yet, but I'm really looking forward to that also.

**Q. Were you surprised at how seemed like each opponent as you went on had trouble with your serve. I know they played you before, but it seemed like they had trouble adapting to your serve.**

SABINE LISICKI: Well, I knew my serve was a big weapon if I really hit it and hit it consistently, so in the first couple matches I really focused on working on my serve, and you know,

then it just kept coming and coming, and I felt really good and confident with my serve, so I was just going for my 120-miles-an-hour serves.

**Q. You're 19 years old. You just won your first tournament. What are you going to do with the money?**

SABINE LISICKI: (Laughs). Right now, I don't really care about that so much. I just won a tournament, and I'm just so happy that I won, you know.

Well, the next tournaments are coming, so you know, I'm actually not focusing on the money (laughs).

**Q. Are you going to at least jump up to first class tomorrow?**

SABINE LISICKI: I'm not sure. Maybe. (Laughs).

**Q. Looking back at your week in Charleston, did you have time to enjoy the city, and what were your favorite parts of Charleston?**

SABINE LISICKI: I actually didn't go out at all, because last week I was sick. I was in Ponte Vedra, and I got badly sick, so I was still recovering, so it was just about recovering and getting fit for the matches. So I was basically on site and in the hotel.

**Q. What about the tape on your fingers, your left, two middle fingers?**

SABINE LISICKI: Yeah. Blisters. I was having trouble with blisters, and it just kept hurting, so I don't want to take it off now in the middle of the tournament, so I'll just keep playing with it and take it off as soon as I have more time.

**Q. When you serve, sometimes you have a real powerful one, and then you come back, a couple of them were like 70 miles an hour after 120. That's 50 miles an hour difference. Does that go through your mind that you're going to serve up like a baseball pitcher would do a changeup, something really slow to trip up the opponent?**

SABINE LISICKI: Well, I think, you know, it's not only about serving as fast as you can. It's about playing smart, and that was what I was doing in that situation. It's not always about hitting the

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ball as hard as you can. It's placing the ball in the right spots, and I was picking my spots and hitting it there.

KEVIN FISCHER: Anything else? Great. Thank you.

End of transcript...

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