

April 16, 2010



Post-Match Press Conference With:

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA
defeats JELENA JANKOVIC
1-6, 6-3, 6-3
Quarterfinal Round

AMY BINDER: Questions for Daniela, please.

Q. Daniela, last time you beat a Top 10 player was in 2007, Chakvetadze. Do you feel like this is one of the biggest wins of the last season or two?

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: Well, definitely I felt very good on the court today, even though the first set was not easy, but I never look at it when was the last time. I was very close last week in Miami to beat Venus. I thought I was playing very well there.

So I knew if I did the right stuff, I had good chances today as well. So I was very proud the way I was fighting. But I felt very tired and I tried not to think about it and go for my shots.

Q. What changed after the first set?

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: I just figured if I kept going like that, I was not going to win for sure. So I tried to put a little more on the ball, move her a little more around and stay more aggressive, and that made the difference.

Q. You were hitting your backhand out of your mind in this match. Did you use any of yesterday's anger to feel that, do you think?

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: Yeah, definitely I wanted to make up for yesterday and definitely tried to play a much better game, which I did and I was really going for the backhand, and it felt pretty good today.

Q. Your serve, too, was working very well today.

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: Yeah, especially in the important moments. That's what really was a good sign today that when I needed to I served well, and like I said, I just tried to stay aggressive throughout the whole match, because you know, Jelena is a very experienced player, and I just knew I had to stay on top of her all the time.

Q. Did you sense she was getting frustrated in that second and third set?

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: Well, obviously I heard her, you know, talking to herself a little bit. I didn't understand what she was saying, but obviously that helps, you know, when it's hot and it's a tough situation of the match to see that your opponent is maybe a little negative, and that just gave me a little more energy to fight even harder.

Q. Do you think that you were executing better in the second and third sets, Daniela, or do you think her level went down at all?

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: No. I don't think her level went down at all. I guess I had to put a little bit more on the ball, and in the first set I was kind of pushing it around and she was doing all what she was supposed to do on the court. And then in the second and third I figured that I just had to go for it a little more, and fortunately I was hitting some good winners from positions that were quite tough to hit it.

TRANSCRIPTS PROVIDED BY:

Kelly McKee, CCR, RPR, CRR
kadmcr@yahoo.com

Q. Daniela, I have an off-topic for you. Some of your fans on Twitter want to know if you did any shopping at Sax at the player party.

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: Yes, I did. I bought -- what did I buy? Seems like such a long time ago.

Q. That's the one question they had for you.

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: I bought a jacket and one nice top and a dress.

Q. So can you just couple sentences about how your week has been going, how you feel this week?

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: Well, I do feel a little bit tired right now, and I was just so glad how I managed to get into the match after losing the first set today, and I just kept fighting.

And overall it's been a great week so far, but it hasn't finished yet, so obviously I'll just try to recover again and focus on my next match. But I'm so glad I came after all these years again here because it's so relaxing and we are having a great time.

Q. Daniela, I think it's your birthday next week.

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: Yes, it is.

Q. Wouldn't that be a nice gift for your birthday?

DANIELA HANTUCHOVA: Oh, definitely that would be a nice gift for myself.

AMY BINDER: Anything else? Thank you.

End of Interview

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kadmcr@yahoo.com***