

April 18, 2010



Post-Match Press Conference With:

VANIA KING and MICHAELLA KRAJICEK

LIEZEL HUBER/NADIA PETROVA defeat
VANIA KING/MICHAELLA KRAJICEK
6-3, 6-4
Final Round

Q. I understand that this is your second time playing together. You won in Memphis. Now you're in the finals here, and that's some incredible results. What do you have to say for yourselves?

VANIA KING: We just clicked.

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Yeah. I think in Australia we said we would play in Memphis, and we did and it went really well. And I think this week has been even more special because it's obviously even a bigger tournament, and obviously second seed. And every match we played really well, and today was our first loss and also the first time we lost actually a set the entire time we played together. So it's really been good, and definitely in the future we'll play much more again.

Q. I was going to ask you about losing your first set because we've been following you on Twitter, and I think you were mentioning that. So how was that? Was it weird losing -- because you find out something when you win together, but also something when you lose together.

VANIA KING: We just play it as a match. We're not thinking about like a set. We're not thinking about the results during the match. When we go on the court, we're thinking about executing and our strategy and what we should be doing. I

don't think we're thinking about the result and winning and losing.

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Obviously today was the toughest opponent, No. 1 in the world and No. 9 in the world. You don't get as much to the net.

Yeah. I think we played okay. I think we could have done a bit more, but on the other side they played really well.

Q. Doubles doesn't get much play in the media, as you know, and when singles players from America drop out of the draw, and I don't mean to exclude you, but "there's no more Americans left in the draw," but obviously we have, one, Liezel Huber, and Vania, who are also American. Do you have any comments on that and the disregard of doubles from the press?

VANIA KING: Well, Liezel plays doubles exclusively, and I play singles and doubles, and singles is my main priority, but for some reason I've always done really well in doubles. I enjoy it, and I understand doubles, and you don't have to run as much, (laughs). I don't know.

I mean I think I just have a knack for doubles. I think doubles can be more interesting. I found at this tournament that the doubles had the equal amount of attention as singles did, if not more, because people can relate to doubles more.

In singles, if you're just a recreational player, it's kind of hard for you to play something like the singles players do. So I think the doubles can be and is quite interesting, and I think hopefully the Tour can market it well. And I think it's something that we all are playing, and a lot of the singles players are also playing doubles. So we have a lot of variety.

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Q. What were your thoughts going into this match? What were you thinking about executing?

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Well, just like any other match, like Vania said, just enjoy, play our own games. And like I said, we knew it was going to be tougher today, and they played really well today. So we did our best and we hang in there, especially in the second set, to make it as tough as possible, but they were just a little bit better today, and I'm sure if we play them next time, we'll be better.

Q. Michaella, do you have a coaching relationship or any type of -- do you do any work with your brother? Does he help you with your serve or does he do anything for your game?

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: He used to. Not anymore really. He's based in Atlanta, and I'm now in Bradenton, Florida. I work at the Bollettieri Academy. So not really, no. In the last year or two, not much. Before, yes.

Q. I'm going to ask about two or three specific points, and I'm going to be asking the others as well, if you don't mind.

You may or may not remember. First, though, I want to know, are you guys wearing any tape or bandages or anything today just for injuries or prevention?

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: I always wear for my wrists, just for prevention, but it's not because my wrists hurt, just because I had troubles in the past, I always wear for extra support and peace of mind.

Q. How about you Vania, today?

VANIA KING: No.

Q. All right. So when it was 3-0 and I think you had that overhead smash that got you guys on the board in the first set, what was going through your mind at that time? Do you remember that? And you were smiling.

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: See, I don't remember that. (Laughs).

Q. You don't remember that? Okay. Let me go on to the next one. You were excited about that. Okay. I think it was 5-3, 40-0, Petrova served an unreturnable, and I think you guys called your coach out. What did you think when you lost that set?

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Yeah, we just wanted to see if he could give us some more advice, if he's seeing something. When you call a coach on the court, if he's seeing something that maybe we are not seeing.

But yeah, I mean it was pretty simple, he said we are playing well, but they are playing just a bit better and we should just hang in there and see if we get some chances, we should take them.

Q. And at one 1-0 I think the second game Petrova served a serve that was really, really hard and you kind of almost fell back, but you hit that short winner.

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Yeah. I do remember that one.

Q. And you were basically just blocking the ball.

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Yeah.

Q. What were your thoughts at that point?

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: That was really good that that fell in, because I mean she serves really hard, especially her first serve. And yeah, I mean I think it was obviously a little bit lucky, but on the other side there was nothing more I could do with that ball, so it was lucky Huber was crossing so it went into her baseline for a lucky winner.

Q. Thanks for humoring me. I have a story in mind here. At 3-0, 40-40 you guys took time to figure out who was going to receive. It seemed like you were chatting for a while. What were you thinking?

VANIA KING: I think throughout this tournament I've been receiving more on the deuce side, and we're not particularly on one person or the other. We kind just of go point by point within each match to see who is playing better.

So you know, we were not really winning those deuce games in the first set. We had a couple of games, and of course, I think Nadia

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played two really good serves, so we were just trying to decide like who was going to have a better shot at it.

End of Interview

Q. At 4-0 I think it was Michaella, I think that was the game you hit one ace, two unreturnables and then you guys got on the board, and Nadia actually almost fell back returning one of your serves. How did you feel after winning that game?

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Obviously happy, but I mean, yeah, we would have preferred to have that game at 2-2, you know.

You know, when you're trying to keep -- you know, the main thing today, I think, was -- we also were chatting after the match, we were just catching up the whole time, and that's not a comfortable feeling in doubles. You know, you want to just be up with your own serve, you want to at least, if you get broken, you want to break back. And at 4-0 it's nice to have a good game like that, an easy one as well, but I know that, yeah, it would have been better if that came at 2-2 or something or even in the first serve game.

Q. But especially serving to Nadia Petrova and she's falling back, I think she's served more aces than anyone else on Tour this year.

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Oh, yeah. For sure. It's nice. But that's all.

Q. The one that hit your foot, you had to stop. I think Nadia hit a smash and it came and hit your foot. And you had to tie your shoelaces. Did that ball hit your foot?

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: Yeah.

Q. Did you just have to tie your shoelaces?

MICHAELLA KRAJICEK: No. I had to breathe it out. It was quite painful, so it was kind of hard to manage, so I was just calming myself down before I stood up again.

So yeah, it was quite painful, so but on the other side, yeah, that's why I was just taking a little bit of extra time.

Q. Okay. Thank you.

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