

April 5, 2016



**Eugenie Bouchard defeats Alexandra Dulgheru
6-3, 6-4
First Round**

An Interview With:

Eugenie Bouchard

Q. So you're coming up on a part of the season where you don't have a lot to defend. Just wondering if you're excited about that or if you feel if last year's low points are at all a positive in some way now?

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: It's not something I'm more excited about. You know, I was excited at the beginning of the year just to be on tour and to play and so grateful for that.

You know, obviously not having many points to defend is an up side, but it's not something I focus on. I'm just trying to focus on getting better.

Q. Genie, I've asked a couple of players this, and I ask you particularly because you are in the process of, we hope, a comeback. What mental strategies have you used to bring yourself back and to withstand some of the things you've had to withstand the last year?

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: Well, I think the first step is really putting the past behind me. You know, I came to Charleston this week, and I felt that I made semis here like last year, and I basically just completely blocked out 2015 from my head that I almost forget the tournament here last year, and I'm only thinking about the positives, when I played really well here two and three years ago. So that's just an example of how I really am trying to forget a bad year.

Q. Compartmentalizing it, is that helping you?

Transcripts Provided By:

Kelly McKee Dorsey, Sports Media Transcriptionist
Email: kadmcr@yahoo.com
Twitter: @reporterkel

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: It is. You know, I came here and I felt such positive vibes and good memories from the past, so it's important for me to forget about the bad moments in the past and really just look forward and look ahead. So I almost forgot I lost first round here last year, like truly.

Q. So you're here with Nick. Are you two officially getting the band back together or what's your Facebook relationship status with him right now?

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: Is it official. Well, I'm very happy that Nick has come this week to help. You know, he's helping me for this week, and beyond that, I can't say right now.

But yeah, it's great having him here.

Q. Are you done with Thomas then? Is that fair to say?

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: That's not something -- that's not the case. So you know, Thomas is on a break right now, and it was planned this way. So for me I'm just going to focus on this tournament and then I have Fed Cup after that and then I'm going to deal with my coach situation.

Q. What's it like -- is this a fun situation for you? What's it like for you being back with Nick, and you two obviously had a pretty good run together a couple of years ago.

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: Yeah. Nick is someone I've known since I was 12 and I've worked with for so many years. So we kind of got back on track as if we didn't miss a day. So that was very refreshing. But they're both great coaches, and yeah, I'm happy to have him in my corner this week and we'll see how it goes.

Q. Just talk about the match. How do you feel like you played in a win, obviously seemed like a pretty easy win in straight sets. How do you feel like that sets the stage for your run this week?

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: I think it was pretty tough. For two sets, I think it was almost two hours or something, and we were really both kind of grinding on the clay. So it's a real good first clay court match to get back into it. She was really making me work hard, and I think I was doing the same to her.

I really had fun, though. You know, it's difficult to adapt to the change of surface but it also makes it interesting and it's an interesting challenge for me.

Q. Heard a lot of people say this could be a comeback year for you. Is it weird for you that at 22 they're talking about a comeback year already?

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: It's an odd feeling. I feel like I'm kind of back -- I feel like I'm back in the past to 2013 when it was my first year on the professional tour, kind of, you know, not being seeded, playing smaller events, things like that. So I feel like, yeah, I just have to kind of work my way back up again, kind of grind, you know, being ranked lower.

But it's a challenge, you know, and I'm completely up to the challenge. I'm positive about it. I'm trying to look forward, and you know, everyone -- the media loved building me up when I was doing well and then breaking me down when I was doing bad. So I'm hoping they'll have a good comeback story.

Q. Just asking a lot of players, equal prize money stuff has been coming up again in the last couple of weeks. Just curious what your take is on it being again a topic of debate or conversation in tennis.

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: Well, I mean I don't think it's something we need to talk about any more so much. I think all the slams have proved what they think is right, and yeah, that's as much as I have to say about it.

Q. Do you think it's done as a topic?

EUGENIE BOUCHARD: I think so. I think we can talk about more interesting things.

End of Interview

Transcripts Provided By:

Kelly McKee Dorsey, Sports Media Transcriptionist

Email: kadmcr@yahoo.com

Twitter: @reporterkel