

April 7, 2016



**Laura Siegemund defeats Mirjana Lucic-Baroni
7-5, 6-2
Third Round**

**An Interview With:

Laura Siegemund**

Q. I don't know if you know this, but you have been on the court for over nine hours.

LAURA SIEGEMUND: Okay. Including doubles.

Q. Including doubles. Yes. How do you feel in terms of your endurance?

LAURA SIEGEMUND: Well, I feel pretty good. I'm used to having long matches on clay. It's part of my game also I think to do a lot of running, and I have a very good physiotherapist, so I've been taken very good care of, and it's important for me. But yeah, I have a great team that takes care of me after my matches. So I feel pretty good. I mean obviously, you know, the matches are hard, and I don't feel like on the first day, but yeah, feeling pretty good so far.

Q. One of the things I noticed is that the serve wasn't on fire today like it was yesterday, and yet you were able to use all your many defensive skills to come out with the same. Is that something you've been working on?

LAURA SIEGEMUND: Yeah. The thing with the serve was the wind today, it was very hard. I tried to serve precise despite the wind, and that's why I produced a couple of more errors, but I can rely on my second serve. So it didn't matter that much to my game.

She was going very aggressive on everything that was short, and a serve is

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something that lands in the service box, so she started the point very aggressive returning. But I knew that and it was okay for me, and I think as you say, I did a good job in fighting my way into the rallies then turn it around and get aggressive when I could.

Q. People tell us that they have adjustments to make on clay and things. Did you expect to play this way coming into the first clay court season?

LAURA SIEGEMUND: No, I didn't expect it. I know that I'm quick to adjust if I have to move on clay, from hard court or from another surface, but I really kept my expectations low because you never know what's going to happen. It's just such a different game, and I've been playing hard court-- my last clay court match was in September, and I really also didn't want to expect a lot from me because I know it's my game. I know I can play very well, but I didn't expect to play well in the very first matches I play. So yeah.

Q. I've seen you a bunch of times in Grand Slam qualifying before and now you're getting to be a little more prime time. I'm just wondering what you feel is the shift that you've changed or improved or anything that's made you to keep moving up at this level even?

LAURA SIEGEMUND: Well, yeah, I think I improved a lot in the last year and half even before that. I just worked on my game, and things are working out well now. I get the chance to play in the main draw right away. I don't have to go through qualifying anymore. I'm not as tired anymore when I start into the big matches and that's a big difference, and I think maybe I'm not playing that much better in some situations as I was a year ago, but I'm just not as tired. I'm fresher and I'm a little bit more convinced about my game, and I've played some good matches against good people. So that gives me confidence.

Q. What do you think it is about Germans in Charleston?

LAURA SIEGEMUND: Yeah, that's an interesting thing. I didn't really realize that until people kept telling me. I really don't know. I mean for myself, as I said previously in the on-court interview, it's just a nice tournament. It's a nice place to be, so if you have that feeling that you

really like where you're playing, that kind of matters also for your performance.

Maybe it's the clay court that is similar to our German clay court. I have no idea. It's still the green clay, so it is different. Maybe it's just you say incidental. So I really don't know. I mean I'm happy to be German out here (laughs).

Q. What is it that you like about this tournament?

LAURA SIEGEMUND: Well, for us it's similar every week. You know, we're going through the same routines every week, players' party, this and that kind of the same. And here everything has a little, I don't know how if you say that in English like that, but it has a little spice to it. You know, the players' party isn't just any kind of players' party. It's at the aquarium. It's really fun.

You get a little present every day, which is awesome presents. You don't get that at every tournament. It's just little things, and if you're playing all year around, it's those little things that matter and make you feel really good and you're like excited to walk in there in the morning and you're like, hey, the gift of the day, what is it. And it's just, yeah, this a little spice to every little thing here, and the people are really friendly, and that all comes together.

Q. Have you got to spend much time in Charleston? Have you been to any restaurants or any favorite spots so far?

LAURA SIEGEMUND: I know it's such a beautiful city and I've been there because last year's players' party was downtown, and I'm staying at the hotel downtown, but since you mentioned I played a lot of hours on the court, I spent every single minute I had recovering, and that doesn't mean walking around the city and, you know, doing some shopping or something.

So I haven't seen a lot yet, but I'm really planning on doing it once I'm done with the tournament, because I hate to be at such nice places and don't get to see anything. So only thing I've seen so far was the Tanger Outlets on the day off at the very beginning, I have to say. But yeah, that was just to start off with. Oh, and I've been to the beach one time, so that could count as something, at the Isle of Palms beach, yeah. But it was very cold, very windy, and I was tired after like 20 minutes. We didn't stay that long. But at least something.

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Q. A lot of people here aren't real familiar with you. Can you talk just a moment about some of the things that you enjoy at those rare times when you're not training or playing?

LAURA SIEGEMUND: You mean just in general?

Q. Real person. Yeah.

LAURA SIEGEMUND: Real person. Yeah, we are actually also human beings. Yes. (Laughs). Yeah, it shifted a little bit since I'm back on the tour now. It's really the every day normal things that I enjoy to do. I like to see my family and friends, if possible, if I'm home. It just gets so rare at this time. I like to just really sit on the couch and watch a movie and read a good book. It's the simple things. It changed a lot since I'm back on pro tour, because normally I'm a very active person, I like to go out, go to the movies, you know, all that stuff. But when you're on the tour 40 weeks or 45 weeks of the year, you gotta couch potato when you're home. And it's just being home and being with the people you love and that you miss for a long time during the year. That's actually the simple things that I enjoy a lot now, yeah.

End of Interview