

**April 8, 2016**



**Angelique Kerber defeats Irina Camelia-Begu  
6-2, 6-3  
Quarterfinal Round**

**An Interview With:  
Angelique Kerber**

**Q. It almost seems like the matches have gotten easier for you. Is it just a comfort level? Is it just your play has increased? What do you think it is that has allowed you to play three shorter matches than the one before?**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: I think I'm getting used to the clay. Of course after Miami I didn't have too much time to get used to the clay court, so the first matches of course for me are like the toughest ones to get back on clay, and now I'm feeling like better and better. And it's great like, yeah, to play good tennis again on clay court.

**Q. You played Irina here last year and it was two tiebreak sets. Today seemed easier but I'm sure it wasn't. But what did you see in her game that was lacking from last year?**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: Actually, I played her also last year in Madrid, and I lost the match, so the last one, and I remember that. So I knew that I must be playing good tennis to beat her, because she's good on clay, and yeah, I was trying to moving good and trying, you know, to just focusing on my game, because sometimes it's tough. You lost sometimes your rhythm, and that was like more my, yeah, my key to just going for it and just trying to stay in the match and playing with patience.

**Transcripts Provided By:**

**Kelly McKee Dorsey, Sports Media Transcriptionist**  
**Email: [kadmcr@yahoo.com](mailto:kadmcr@yahoo.com)**  
**Twitter: @reporterkel**

**Q. Talk about you being defending champion. Is it about comfort and are you a creature of comforts and routines and having sort of the same things from last year this year, and is that helping you at all?**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: Yeah. It helps me a lot because I have great memories here. The people are so nice, and the feeling to being back here where the tournament was so important for me last year, to coming back on track actually.

So it's just a great feeling. I have the feeling again like last year to playing good tennis and going out there, trying to give my best and just enjoying every minute here in Charleston?

**Q. It seemed like in the second set you were down two games to one. You get that ace right there to tie it up. And that maybe seemed to unnerve her a little bit because you won the next game pretty easily, and you seemed to pick your game up a little bit right there.**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: Yeah, I was trying the first few games in the second set, just trying to play point by point, trying to not thinking about the score. Just trying to moving good and trying to play the tough rallies against her. And yeah, playing like more aggressive, and it works. So yeah. That helps me in the second set.

**Q. Can you talk about how you're feeling confidence wise right now as opposed to when you first got here?**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: You know, I'm feeling -- I have a lot of confidence right now, you know. I have good motivation to coming back and playing the next match and taking the next challenge.

**Q. Angie, I know it's never easy to, but talk about if you were to play Sloane, what that matchup would offer and then Daria, I think it would be your first meeting.**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: So Sloane, she's a great player, I know, and I played a few times against her already, so I will just trying to go out against her and trying to take which challenge, playing a good match. So just enjoy it against her.

And against Daria, I never played her before, so that will be our first match. And I actually don't know how she's playing. So that's it what I can say now for this moment again.

**Q. How much did Andrea have with you coming here last year, her success the year before, did she talk to you about this tournament and coming here?**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: I know from a lot of players that this tournament is a great one, but also I don't know when I was here first time. That's really long time ago, and I remember that also that I had like a really great week, like a few years ago. And a lot of players love this tournament. And it's good to start here the clay court season. And I know that a lot of Germans won this tournament already, so yeah, I think the Germans love this tournament.

**Q. I don't like to bring up a loss, but this may have been a significant one for you. Do you remember several years ago when you played a very long match against Hantuchová?**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: It was here seven years ago. Yes.

**Q. And I think you lost that match.**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: I remember. I was on the Grandstand.

**Q. You played extremely well. And I was wondering if that kind of turned a corner for you.**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: Yes. I remember this match. I didn't know that it was seven years ago, but it's a long time. And yeah, I remember this match against Daniela on the Grandstand. It was a tough match. I lost it. But yeah, from this time I know that Charleston is a great place to coming back.

**Q. Angie, I don't think anyone would liken a German to a southerner, but what's the most southern thing about you? You've won eight matches here in a row now.**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: (Laughs). I don't know.

**Q. Well, southerners are pretty relaxed, but Germans are known to be very punk you'll.**

ANGELIQUE KERBER: I know. But I don't know. Just -- let's just play. Let's just play. (Laughs).

End of Interview

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***Kelly McKee Dorsey, Sports Media Transcriptionist***

***Email: [kadmcr@yahoo.com](mailto:kadmcr@yahoo.com)***

***Twitter: @reporterkel***