

**April 9, 2017**

A Post-Match Interview With:

## **JELENA OSTAPENKO**

**Daria Kasatkina defeats Jelena Ostapenko  
6-3, 6-1  
Final Round**

**Q. How do you feel about all that happened this whole week?**

JELENA OSTAPENKO: Yeah, I feel really great, like I was playing good all the days this week. I beat some great players, but today was really not my day, and I just didn't feel the ball that well, and I was missing too much, and because she was only defending during the whole match. And yeah, it was just probably not my day.

**Q. In the beginning it looked like you were hitting the ball very well in the first couple of games and then she started to throw the slice in a little bit more. How much did that shot bother you?**

JELENA OSTAPENKO: I actually knew that she's going to play like that already before the match because I played her a couple of times. But then I was trying just to like put it in the ball, but I think I wasn't moving that well maybe because I played the whole week against such great players, and maybe I also felt a bit tired because I played the semis in doubles yesterday, and that's all together probably, yeah.

**Q. But a pretty good start to your clay court season? What are your expectations on this surface generally?**

JELENA OSTAPENKO: Yeah, I mean if I play how I played during this week, except this match, I think I can do pretty well because I think I got some confidence, and I'm happy with this week, just not about today's match, but in general the week was good for me.

**Q. You have so much fire power in your game. How would you characterize her**

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**game and what she did that made her effective today?**

JELENA OSTAPENKO: You mean my opponent?

**Q. Yeah.**

JELENA OSTAPENKO: Yeah. I mean I'm aggressive player, and I don't think she could like be more aggressive than me, so she was trying to play defensive to change the rhythm, to play slice, to play lobs, to do kick serve, to try everything to make me uncomfortable. And normally I'm fine with that, but today I just didn't feel the ball that well.

**Q. What's your plan? Do you know what your schedule looks like for clay yet?**

JELENA OSTAPENKO: Yeah, I'm going to play some like more tournaments on clay before the French Open to get used to. And yeah, probably the first one I will play Stuttgart.

**Q. Are there things you feel you've been doing well this week different than let's say last year, the things that have kind of improved, certain things that have gotten better in your game?**

JELENA OSTAPENKO: I think I got a bit more consistent on clay, and yeah, I think I improved my serve and I'm moving better, but I still have a lot of things to work on and I think it's pretty good because then I can climb in the ranking.

**Q. This is your first time in Charleston and what memories will you take away of the city and the people here?**

JELENA OSTAPENKO: Yeah, it's a really great city and great place to play, and yeah, I really enjoyed it, the fans who came and supported me during this week and just the place is amazing, yeah, I like it so much.

End of Interview

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