

April 4, 2018

K. PLISKOVA defeats P. KVITOVA
1-6, 6-1, 6-3
2nd Round

An Interview With:

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA

Q. Kristyna , congratulations. Petra had won 24 straight matches against other Czech players. I don't know if you knew that.

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I knew that, yeah.

Q. What do you think this win will mean among the Czech tennis community?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: Well, I played her in Beijing last year, so I knew before that match that she's playing against Czech players pretty well. And since then I know that, and I mean she's confident against Czech players, but this match was kind of a little bit different. It was windy and it's first time on clay for her; for me second match. So I think we both were kind of like a little bit nervous and struggling, but I was better in the end.

Q. What was the biggest difference for you from that first set to the last two? It seemed like some kind of switch was flipped or something and you just turned your game on.

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I think my serve started a little bit to -- I started to put it in the court finally. First set was horrible and that's the biggest difference and of course, she missed a couple of times, and I just played aggressive more.

Q. Kristyna, what's the mindset and the game plan when you take the court to play Petra?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I got some advices from Karolina actually, so it really helped because she knows her better than me. And she's lefty and I am lefty, so it's not great for me. I plays always bad against lefties. The serve is different and I'm not used to it, so it was a hard draw for me.

Q. So how big of a win is this for you? We can look at the statistics and we can say

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Volvo Car Open



other
things.
But

does this feel like a big win for you or just another win?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I mean, of course, every Top 10 win is big, I think. Especially I need matches like this more, and so I think it's important for me.

Q. How do you feel about clay overall?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I played some good matches last year, which I mean the years before I was struggling with movement and stuff. So last year I was praying my coach like please, I need to win at least won match. And I was finals in Prague, and I think it gave me confidence I can play on clay as well. And so far I'm doing pretty well.

Q. I think you said you don't play well against lefties. Why is that?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I mean there is not much lefties on tour. I don't know how many, but it doesn't get -- like it doesn't happen very often that I play left-handed. I played Kerber a couple of times. I don't know who else. But I just -- I feel bad. I don't see the serve, and you have everything from the other side. So I just don't feel good.

Q. There's been a lot of changes of coaches and things of that among other Czech players. How would you describe the current sort of add sphere among the Czech girls?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: You know, it's tough. I mean some girls, they -- it's not easy for them. I mean if they like the coach and they want to stay and then someone else asks and take the coach away. So it's not easy, but I think it's just sport and it's just coach, so he can do whatever he wants. And he gets better offer, then he can go. It's like not marriage. (Laughs). So I think there's nothing bad about switching coaches. Yeah.

Q. What made you play this tournament and what made Karolina not come with you?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I don't know, but I think she was a little tired after Indian Wells and Miami. It's kind of a long streak, and for me as

well, I think for everyone it's long to stay here. She decided to go home and prepare a little bit for Fed Cup.

Q. What made you play here?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I need some matches, so I decide I will play every week tournament.

Q. Seriously, what's the arrest of your clay prep?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: Yes. I entered every week.

Q. Yeah?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: But obviously it will change if I am winning, then I can do some changes, but for now I am still next week in Switzerland playing. And then Stuttgart, Prague, Madrid, Rome.

Q. That is everything.

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: Yes.

Q. Are you a little surprised by the success you've had here since you had only won four matches this year?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: If I am surprised I won?

Q. Yeah, surprised that you won two matches here and you had only won four the whole year.

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: Well, I mean this match is big for me, but I am not surprised. I was practicing good and I was feeling good the whole week here. I came early, so I'm not really surprised because I know how I can play, so I'm not that surprised I won two matches. I would be surprised if I won the tournament.

Q. Next one against Elena Vesnina. I don't think that you guys have played before, but can you talk a little bit about what you might expect in that match and what needs to happen for you in order to win that match?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I think I never played her -- well, I'm sure I never played her but I played her in doubles and I watched her a little bit a couple of times. Of course, I asked Karolina. I think she played her, so she will give me some advice. But I mean the key for me is serve and to

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play aggressive. And I am able to do this, then it should be fine.

Q. How much attention do you pay to the ace statistics for the leaderboard for who has the most aces in the season?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: I heard Julia Goerges is first.

Q. Because you're obviously a contender for that No. 1 spot.

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: Yeah, I know, but...

Q. Do you pay attention to it?

KRISTYNA PLISKOVA: No, not much. I hit 31 aces one match and I still lost the match. So it's not really that important.

End of Interview