

**April 6, 2018**

**J. GOERGES defeats D. Kasatkina  
6-4, 6-3  
Quarterfinal Round**

**An Interview With: DARIA KASATKINA**

**Q. Daria, just talk through the match today. She played a very good match. And so what do you think could have been done to switch things around for you and what was the difference do you think?**

DARIA KASATKINA: Yeah. She was playing really well, and her serve was working very good today, which was the most big point for her because I really -- even I had the opportunity to turn the game, she was going for an ace or something like that. Yeah, it's one of the most difficult parts of playing the aggressive player. But yeah, she was better today than me, so well deserved.

**Q. Are there more emotions in losing a match where you're a defending champion, where you've kind of gained a fan following where you have a special attachment to?**

DARIA KASATKINA: Yeah. I was really upset after the match. So yeah, I was not able to hold my tears after the match. So I just went to -- yeah, it's tough, but I'm happy that I have this experience now, and I went through this and I'm pretty sure next time is going to be much easier.

**Q. After Indian Wells, Miami, how would you assess your transition from hard court to clay after this week?**

DARIA KASATKINA: Good. I played two matches. I was practicing already for one week. So I think the transition is going pretty well. Now I will have a few days off and get back on the red European clay finally.

**Q. What did you learn from this whole experience of defending a title for the first time? It's a lot of new things for you this week.**

DARIA KASATKINA: First of all, of course, learning how to deal with this pressure, because it's really tough. Yeah, I felt it on myself. And I



Volvo Car Open



think  
this is  
very,  
very

important experience, which I am

happy to get here in Charleston. Actually, a lot of experience I'm getting in Charleston.

**Q. Did you believe that you could change the momentum? When I was watching you on court, you looked pretty frustrated.**

DARIA KASATKINA: Of course, I always believe. There is always a chance no matter which score it is. And in Dubai, I made it like I don't know how many times. So yeah, of course I believed. But to say honestly, I am already empty and it was a really tough tournament series in the United States. And yeah, it's tough. And I'm happy that I went through this. As my coach said, like a big girl.

**Q. I think you're entered next week in Bogota. Are you still planning on playing there?**

DARIA KASATKINA: I had to retire from Bogota. Yeah. I send my muscle on the left leg, so unfortunately I will be not able to compete in Bogota and I'm apologizing, but unfortunately, the professional sport is like this.

**Q. And Daria, just now that this entire U. S. swing is over, can you reflect on the first three and a week months of the season from Australia to now? Like what do you take from this stretch of the season into the full European clay court season?**

DARIA KASATKINA: You know, before the season starts, you never know how it's going to be. So yeah. Second year and I didn't have a good start in Australia, but I am happy that compared to the last year I made a few let's say like correction, and I was able to play good in the next tournaments. Like St. Petersburg, Dubai and Indian Wells. And I am looking forward already for the clay, and I hope it's going to be all right.

**Q. Daria, you talked about the pressure and the challenges this week, but what were a**

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**couple of fun things or what did you enjoy out of this week, if anything?**

DARIA KASATKINA: Everything, all the activities which were about eating and cooking. (Laughs). No, really, I like the atmosphere in Charleston, the people, the food, the organization, everything is so awesome. Yeah, that I'm really happy and excited to come here every year, and I hope that next year I will come back again, really, because for me this tournament has a special place in my heart.

**Q. On a lighter note, we would love to hear some more Californian.**

DARIA KASATKINA: Californian. Well, (laughs). No, I like California, too, of course. The nature is very beautiful there. It's sometimes cold, but here is also, not always warm. Actually, it is so many nice places in the United States, and the tournaments are organized really well, so we are happy to come here all the time. And actually, I am spending like half a year in the United States because I also have a preseason in Florida. Yeah, wish to be as long as this in Europe, for example.

**Q. Do you still have the car that was given to you last year?**

DARIA KASATKINA: No. It's expired. They give it to me only for one year. Yeah. Unfortunately. (Laughs).

End of Interview

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