

**April 8, 2018**

**K. BERTENS defeats J. Goerges  
6-2, 6-1  
Final Round**

**An Interview With: J. GOERGES**

**Q. Julia, probably not the way you wanted the final to go whatsoever, but I guess just how did you feel coming out of the semi into the final? Your tennis seemed to escape you in the final overall.**

JULIA GOERGES: Yeah, that I think semifinal today took a lot of mental effort from my side. I think one hour and 45 wasn't really quite enough to recover and be as well as I want to be prepared for a final, but I have to take it is. That's what I tried to do, tried to do the best I could, but obviously wasn't the way I was planning to play and the way it should have been happening. But I also have to give credit to her because she played very solid. She didn't give a lot of mistakes, so I really had to work for every point. I wasn't, yeah, really able to play every point as tough as I did in the semis. That's how it is. I'm still proud of what I have achieved here and how far I've been going after my first round, and that's, yeah, it's a good ending to a U. S. series and I'm ready to go home.

**Q. Is it tough also just how different the opponents are between your first and second matches today? I mean you're getting a lot more pace from Kiki, a lot different sort of strategy on court. Is that a tough adjustment or is that not a problem?**

JULIA GOERGES: I think they were quite similar from the position they are having on the court. They are very far back. They cover the court pretty well at the baseline. You need to try to open the court a little bit which I did very well in the semis. If you don't move as well as I did in the semis, it's tough to create angles and good shape on the ball. Yeah, so that was pretty tough for me in the final, but from the playing style I was, yeah, it was pretty much the same semis and finals.

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Volvo Car Open



**Q. Julia, that game at 4-2 when she was serving you had break points. It seemed like a pretty big one. Can you just talk about kind of how those break points went for you and then did you feel like a letdown? It seemed like you were surging and getting your energy up in that game.**

JULIA GOERGES: Yeah, I was trying to find solutions to somehow get back into it. I've done it pretty well the whole week to find somehow some ways out of tough situation, which I sometimes brought myself into it. But at the end what's counting is that you find a solution to get, yeah, to get going and to get playing well. And she was serving pretty good in that game, especially in the important points, and yeah, it was still the right play, but I wasn't feeling well, yeah, from the first point on the first ball I hit in the final. And yeah, it just kept going through.

**Q. I saw your coach come out. I think it was only once during the match, but what did he suggest for you?**

JULIA GOERGES: He's not my coach. He's my physio. But signed up as a coach. I just asked him to push me somehow, to give me some energy. That was basically everything. And he told me that I still should try to find solutions to get out of it to somehow get energy. That's what he's been telling me. That's basically as much as he can tell me because strategy was setup. It was just about moving and preparing as well as I can for the ball to create those balls I want to have. And I wasn't able to produce those shots, and then she was, yeah, too solid for it.

**Q. The clay season just getting started, after a good week now what are your expectations as you go over to Europe?**

JULIA GOERGES: I expect a nice warm bed at home. That's what I expect. No, I'm ready to go home and have some days off because Fed Cup is calling a week after, and I think that's a pretty big one. And we'll see. We'll try to, yeah, get the best out of it there, but first I'm really looking forward to some warmer nice weather back at home.

**Q. You've sustained such a good level since maybe October. What do you have to do to keep that going and what are your sort of next goals, if you have any, for what you can do to improve even more than the high level you've had?**

JULIA GOERGES: Yeah, keep working hard. I think we are doing the right things. It's proving on almost every tournament I'm playing that I'm doing the right things. And here was a big improvement for me, and really it showed me how tough I am mentally, how tough situations can be, but I still find a way out. And that's what's very important, being consistent, but also on the day where maybe something is not going right or almost nothing, you still try and believe, and yeah, I think if you have a certain quality, you get out of those situations, and sometimes you need to be lucky, too. I was in some ways lucky in the first round but ended up sitting here and taking a flight on Monday.

**Q. Just what do you take out of this week, Julia? Two points from exiting early and then obviously great wins over a good string of players, Osaka, Sevastova. So what do you take out of this tournament back to Europe?**

JULIA GOERGES: A lot. I think even without a coach I was able to play my game to be the player I want to be on court, to produce good tennis, but also to really figure out tough moments, how to find a solution there. So I can take a lot of positive things. I cannot win every tournament I am playing. No, seriously, I'm very proud of what I have achieved in the last months, and I don't know how many finals I've played in the last four months or five months. And at the same time I'm very happy for Kiki. She's a great girl. I've played doubles with her, and I know that she's a hell of a player, and for me it's great if I have to lose to someone, I want to lose to her today.

**Q. Julia, what will you do the next few days just to kind of wind down? I know you want to go home.**

JULIA GOERGES: You don't want to know what I'm going to do. Well, tonight there is a big ice cream coming. That's the first thing.

**Q. Sounds good.**

JULIA GOERGES: Yeah. That's good. Then I have an early flight tomorrow to

Washington. Then I have to wait 10 hours in Washington to get my connections.

**Q. It sounds really relaxing so far?**

JULIA GOERGES: Yes. Then I take another connection in Frankfurt. Then I'm almost home but then I still have to drive two hours from Prague home. And then if I'm there I'll take my bike and go in the city and have another ice cream and a nice coffee. That's what I'm going to do.

**Q. Julia, talking about Kiki, yeah, you guys are good friends, nice moment at the net and some nice words to her and her team. But can you just talk a little bit about her? What makes her so difficult to play on this surface? Her game seems to elevate on clay in a way that doesn't happen on hard courts, and what do you see in terms of, it's clay season, Kiki is winning titles.**

JULIA GOERGES: I think she's a great mover on clay, especially she knows how to slide on this surface, and it seems pretty natural for her. She covers the court pretty well at the baseline. She's serving good. She's mixing up the heights, the variations in her game which is also very good. I mean sometimes in women's tennis you just see like fast, fast, fast and you have to hit a winner, but she puts up a lot of variety in it and she's waiting for her opportunity. So I think that's for her more natural to slide on the clay court than on the hard court, and to make a point against her it takes a lot of effort, but at the same time it takes also, yeah, a mental presence there. And that's I think what's sometimes not happening on all of the players and that's why I think she won so many title on clay already.

**Q. You mentioned Elise. I don't know how well you know her. What do you think of the success she had coaching a player for one week and winning a title?**

JULIA GOERGES: Well, I think Raemon is pretty proud of her at home. We guys had a lot of fun already together. So no, Elise is also great. I like her a lot from Alex and I've played Alex already in the U.S. Open and they are great guys. I think it's nice to step in for one week and say, hey, I got a title. It's okay, but I think Raemon is as happy as Elise here.

End of Interview

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