

**April 2, 2009**

**Sony Ericsson Open**

**S. WILLIAMS/V. WILLIAMS**

6-4, 3-6, 6-3

An interview with:

## **VENUS WILLIAMS**

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

**Q. So it's another chapter in a book. What was the theme for you this time?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: You know, it was a well-fought match. I definitely would have liked to get a few more points off my serve. You know, I think my serve wasn't going as well as I wanted today. But she brought a lot have balls back and played tough.

**Q. When did you guys last hit together?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: I don't know. I don't keep track.

**Q. Was it in the past couple days, or has it been a week?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: I don't keep track.

**Q. Now it's going to be on clay. What are your expectations about the clay season?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: Always expect to do well. Each tournament I go to I'm going for the win.

**Q. What about the French Open? It was a bit disappointing for you last year.**

VENUS WILLIAMS: Yeah, I had some issues last year. That was last year.

**Q. It's completely different?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: Totally.

**Q. How did you feel you played tonight?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: You know, I think I had some errors sneak in sometimes. That doesn't help.

I did the best I could today. I'm just looking to do better always.

**Q. Did you feel like the level picked up in the third set from both of you?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: Yeah, I think so. But in any third-set match the stakes are higher. You know, at that point it's winner take all. So, yeah, it's always good.

**Q. Trouble with your serve today. You gave her lots of breakpoint opportunities.**

VENUS WILLIAMS: Yeah, my service games didn't go exactly the way I wanted today.

**Q. Are you still surprised by the way Serena plays?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: She's a great player, so I expect her to play great.

**Q. Do you feel like she's able to go through like a dry spell, three, four games, and she could just, when she knows she's in trouble, she has that switch she can just turn on?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: Yeah, you know, she plays well always. I mean, I like to think if there's three or fours games where she doesn't play as well, maybe it has something to do with me if I'm playing her at that moment.

**Q. What would you do differently against her? Anything?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: You know, it's still so close to the match. I'll definitely have to think about it. I'm sure we'll play again. I'll make those adjustments.

**Q. You two going to hang out tonight, dinner, late snack?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: It's almost midnight. It's not hang-out time.

**Q. Is there any sense that even though you lost, you enabled her to retain her No. 1**

**ranking?**

VENUS WILLIAMS: I'm really -- even though she's my sister, I'm still here to win the matches. You know, I can't give anyone anything.

So I'm disappointed that I lost tonight, whether or not she kept the ranking or not.

**Q. How would you gauge the final now between Serena and Victoria? Obviously you've played them both.**

VENUS WILLIAMS: Yeah, Serena is -- obviously Victoria is talented. But, you know, Serena -- yeah, Serena is Serena.

**FastScripts by ASAP Sports**