### Miami Open presented by Itaú

Friday, March 25, 2022 Miami, Florida, USA

### Linda Fruhvirtova

**Press Conference** 

L. FRUHVIRTOVA/E. Mertens

7-5, 2-6, 6-1

THE MODERATOR: (Off mic.)

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: Well, I mean, it's definitely one of my best tournaments so far. I think the best one. I never played against top-25 player, and, yeah, it's unbelievable.

I still can't believe it. But I'm so happy I got the win here. I worked really hard for this, and I'm enjoying it.

## Q. When she won the second set, what's going through your mind?

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: Well, she started to be more aggressive in the second set. I slowed down a little bit. I still believe that I can win this match, and I just kept fighting and wanted to keep good attitude.

Yeah, I mean, I lost the second set, but I still knew that I can win this match and just keep playing my game and focusing on myself.

# Q. You won six out of seven games against the No. 24 player in the world. When it happens, what goes through your mind?

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: I was like just stay focused until the match is over. You know, it was 3-1, 4-1. She had some chances at the beginning of the third set to break me, but yeah, it's unbelievable. It's like, you know, that really happen or am I just dreaming?

Yeah, I mean, the feeling is amazing, you know. These are the moments we do it for. So, yeah, I'm just really happy.

#### Q. Do you get nervous at all, because you were sort of the younger player and nothing to lose at all? Do you think that maybe helped you in a way?

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: Well, I think you're always a bit nervous in the matches, especially this was a really big



match for me. The one before too.

But I think I managed well, and, yeah, I didn't let it get to me that much. Yeah, I think I managed well.

#### Q. Your sister is also training with you in France, or...

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: Yeah, well, we train together sometimes. She's obviously really good. We play doubles together. Yeah, I just can't wait till she's playing these tournaments too and we can be here together and get these matches together.

Yeah, I think she'll get here soon.

#### Q. Do your parents play tennis at all?

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: No, they did not. We're first ones in the family to play tennis on a professional level.

Q. As a young player, obviously you're just starting your career, and obviously this week Ashleigh Barty retired at 25. As a young player, when you look ahead at the tour and the difficulties sometimes it can bring and a player like that can retire so young, how do you sort of look at that?

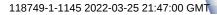
LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: Well, I think she's done some incredible things for tennis. You know, she's an incredible player. She seems like a nice person. I never got the chance to like meet her personally, but, you know, I think that everyone doesn't want to play till 30 or 40, you know. Everybody has different goals and what they want to achieve.

I think she achieved her goals, everything she wanted in tennis, so, yeah, she just wanted to start a different life. But, I mean, it's every player's decision. Someone wants to retire when she's 25, someone wants to keep playing till she's 40. You know, it's very individual.

## Q. Is there anything you like doing away from tennis? Any other hobbies?

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: Well, I love to spend time with my sister. We go shopping sometimes. Yeah, just spend time

... when all is said, we're done."



with my family.

I don't get much free time, but, yeah, I like to follow some other sports, go to some games. Yeah, for now, there is not much free time, but I just like to spend it with my family.

# Q. What are your goals then looking ahead towards the next few months or couple of years? Where do you see your trajectory?

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: Well, I have always answered that I want to reach No. 1. I want to win Grand Slam titles, which hasn't changed. We always said that with my sister it's my goal and, yeah, we just want to achieve that.

#### Q. Is Petra, I think she's playing right now, is she someone you looked up to as a young Czech player? Other players growing up that you looked up to?

LINDA FRUHVIRTOVA: Yeah, well, she's definitely one of the players that I grew up watching, you know, when I was younger. I watched her win the Wimbledon two times.

Yeah, she's definitely someone to look up to. She's a great athlete and great player. Really nice person. She's definitely one of the people to look up to.

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