

Omnium Banque Nationale

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Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Coco Gauff

Press Conference

C. GAUFF/V. Kudermetova

4-6, 7-5, 6-2

THE MODERATOR: Congratulations, Coco. Another tough match here in Montreal. What switched in the second set, and how did you turn it around?

COCO GAUFF: Yeah, I think maybe I got a little bit upset with myself, so I was able to relax a little bit more. But yeah, it's been tough matches here, but happy to get through this one today.

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

Q. You're already up to well above five hours in two matches. How is your energy level? How are you handling this thus far?

COCO GAUFF: Yeah, I mean, my energy level is there. I'm not quite at the point where these matches tire me out physically.

Yeah, I was training in Florida for three weeks having, like, three-, three-and-a-half-hour practices, plus fitness in 90-degree weather with humidity. So it doesn't feel as long as it is said, but I would love to get these matches under the two-hour mark, but if that's what it takes, I'm here to be out here.

Q. There's a possibility you might be facing Victoria in the next round. What have you learned from your first match against her in Rome this year?

COCO GAUFF: Yeah, she's a great player. I mean, we played on clay, so it might be -- well, it will be a different match. Obviously she's gotten more experience just being on tour and playing high-level players.

So if I were to play her, it would be a tough match. Yeah, she's definitely playing like one of the top players in the world right now. Her ranking will definitely match that soon. So yeah, it would be a tough match.

Q. How do you kind of balance things out or in your



head rationalize the fact that you hit more double faults today, but you also, again, found a way to win?

COCO GAUFF: Yeah, I mean, there's positives and there's negatives. Obviously I am so disappointed in myself when it comes to that part of the game just because I didn't play D.C. to work on that and made changes to that and doing well in practice and serving really well in practice. Yeah, so I just would like for it to transfer to the match.

It does give positives that, okay, I'm winning these matches having literally like one part of my game on a crutch. So it's like if I can stand on both feet, then I can only imagine that it would be a lot more straightforward and a lot more easier for me.

Q. Just to stay on the double faults, you lead the tour with the double faults. Is that something that worries you, or can you push it aside anyway even if it's been a problem for you this week?

COCO GAUFF: Yeah, there's, again, two things I can take from it. Yeah, I don't want to lead that stat, and I want to do better. I know I probably won't be ever double fault-free, but if I could get that to 2%, 3%, it would make a big difference in just making these matches a lot easier. The fact that I'm winning matches and finding ways to win with that is definitely a positive.

But I'm a tough critic on myself. I know I can do better, and I know I should do better. It will get better. It's just a matter of time.

Q. Just on the doubles, you had a tough one against Aryna last year, hit more than 20, and then against Danielle, today. Three players who like to attack, go big on the returns. Is that perhaps a factor in these matches hitting the doubles because you know they're going to go after the serve?

COCO GAUFF: I will say more so against Danielle. I was definitely thinking about it, but it's still not an excuse to hit double digits in double faults. Those things can cause maybe three or four more extra, but that many is definitely -- I don't think plays that much of a factor.

...quand tout est dit, nous avons terminé.



Today it was a little bit better, but it's still not good. Yeah, I don't think it plays that much of a factor. I think it's just more so of a "me" thing.

Q. You're still in the doubles draw too. I think you're schedule to do play tomorrow.

COCO GAUFF: Yeah.

Q. Does being still in that draw maybe give you an opportunity to work on things in a competitive setting in a match?

COCO GAUFF: Yeah, definitely. Yeah, my doubles yesterday I hit zero double faults, so it was just, like, okay. It's definitely positive. I just would like to serve how I do in doubles in singles, but that was the reason to play is just to give myself pressure moments.

You know, it's weird. I feel more pressure serving in doubles than in singles because I don't want to sit here and give the match away for my partner. So I'm trying to take that mentality into singles, but it's not so easy.

Yeah, I'm happy that I have another chance to compete and another chance to get better.

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