

## Maria Sakkari (August 02, 2019)

**Q:** “When do you think the momentum shifted in your favor? You were down twice, 4-1 and then 5-2, and then it seemed like that switch just kind of flipped on and you started winning.”

**A:** “Yeah, I think on 4-1. Of course, I was going to play some good games after that. But I think my mentality changed on that [sixth] game. When I called Tom in, that was the turning point, I think.”

**Q:** “So that first game, what exactly did you feel you were doing wrong?”

**A:** “I think I was not physically reacting as good. And as I’ve already said in many interviews, that if my movement isn’t there, then my whole game is just not working. So [in the first set], I was not moving well, I was reacting slow. And then I just realized that I had to play with more intensity, so that’s what I tried to do and it worked well [smiles].”

**Q:** “This is pretty similar to the match you had last year in the semifinals against Danielle Collins where you got down and then came back. What’s this about San José, where you get down and come back to win the next two sets?”

**A:** “Maybe it’s something about this place, you know, with the comebacks. I really feel comfortable being on the center court here — really feeling like home, I would say, very familiar. It feels good to play and compete out there.”

**Q:** “The tiebreaker, of course, was tough. But it’s 5-2, you’re one game away from being eliminated. What’s on your mind?”

**A:** “I don’t remember [laughs]. I really don’t remember what I was thinking. Just stay there, try and make balls and try to make her play. If she can blow four winners, then too good — it wasn’t my day. But I just stayed there, fought well and I don’t think I was thinking of anything else. You cannot think much at that point. You’re one step away from losing.”

**Q:** “Had you ever played against [Svitolina] before or was this your first time?”

**A:** “We played at Wimbledon a month ago. I lost to her in three sets.”

**Q:** “So does it feel nice to get revenge?”

**A:** “Yeah, I mean, I don’t see it that way to tell you the truth because we’re going to play each other hopefully so many times. We’re both young, so I think it’s going to be one way or the other [laughs].”

**Q:** “Now that you have this out of your system, how do you feel going into the semifinals?”

**A:** “Of course, I still don’t know who is going to be my opponent. I feel pretty confident in my game, pretty confident that if [I fall behind] again, I can [come back] again. I’m not scared, I would say, even if I’m losing tomorrow by a set, I’ll still think that I can do it. So, as I said, confident.”