

Ain't Nothing Like The Real Thing



This match was highly anticipated. David had been working diligently with Mary all week. Mary didn't seem nervous prior to the match, but once you get into the match. That's a horse of different color! David texted me, "1-4, nervous. Doing good stuff though. I LIKE IT!" I responded, "Hopefully she can turn it around." A few moments later Dave texted again, "1-6 BUT looking really good in my PLAN!" I thought, "How in the heck can it look good in his plan and she loss 1-6?" I guess you had to be there and I wasn't. However, I knew he is an awesome coach so he had to be my eyes! The second set began, and people were approaching Dave and complimenting Mary on her tennis ability.

There were some junior players commenting on how well Mary was playing and concluded, "Dominique is going to lose!" Some of the older players approached Dave and said, "Wow, she is really good! Her strokes are incredible!" Mary must have been looking pretty darn good out there. Coaches and parents were approaching David while Mary was playing. All were amazed by her athleticism, shot selection and mental toughness. The general consensus was she's definitely far ahead of the pack. All I'm thinking maybe if I was there, maybe my smile would generate some confidence. Dave texted back, "I'm smiling." Dave was obviously quite pleased with what he saw. He texted, "Either way I AM SO HAPPY!" I thanked God for that! He's there, so he can assess what's she's doing right and wrong. I just didn't want her to quit. I just wanted her to believe that she could do this. That doesn't necessarily mean you win, it means you don't give up. The second set seemed to tilt in Mary's favor. She was giving Dominique a run for her money. Dominique was losing confidence and the mental edge and surely wondered if she could defeat this worthy opponent. Mary seemed to be dominating. She made better

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shot selections and appeared more technically sound. She played aggressively and kept the pressure on. Dave texted, "The score 3-4; a long, long game 4-5, 5-6." Dave was so confident Mary was going to pull this off; he texted, "She got this!" I texted back, "Wow! She believes!" Dave texted, "Starting." Well the adrenalin rush lasted until Dave texted back, "Loss." Then I acquired another adrenalin rush and texted him, "Great effort! She'll get her next time! Got more games on her than anyone else! Bravo!" Dave was just as excited. So much so he called on the cell phone praising Mary's performance. The only one that was crushed of course was Mary. She knew she could have won the match. She believed she could have won, but she didn't realize that she was also a winner today. She proved all the naysayers wrong. She let her racquet do the talking for all to see. Dominique's father said, "Mary has improved 100%!" Dave smiled. Well, there's a new sheriff in town and her name is Mary Profit! She's like a fine wine, the older it becomes the better it will taste. Cheers Mary, on a job well done!