



WTA 500

Sunday, April 5, 2026

Desirae Krawczyk/Caty McNally def. Anna Bondar/Magdalena Frech
6-3, 6-2
Final Round

An Interview With Desirae Krawczyk and Caty McNally

THE MODERATOR: Ladies, congratulations. Just your thoughts on playing together for the first time as a pair approximate your title win here in Charleston.

CATY McNALLY: Yeah. It's been a great week. I think we've grown a lot each match, and just, yeah, learned each other's game styles and figured out what worked well together, and I think we had, yeah, each match we just got so much better and were able to assert yourselves, and honestly, just have a lot of fun. I think that was the most important thing. We really enjoyed playing, I think.

Q. Congratulations on the title. Caty, I think you hinted on the court about it but can you talk about how the actual pairing came together?

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Yeah. My original partner was supposed to play in this tournament with me, but then she ended up pulling out. So then I needed to re-pair, and I kind of was scrambling to find anyone, because it was very last minute. So I texted a bunch of people and texted Caty and hoping she responded right away. She put me on "read" for a while. I think she was trying to figure out scheduling, but it worked out, and here we are.

CATY McNALLY: And, honestly, I think we left out like I was maybe going to pull out on you.

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Yeah, because she had Billie Jean King Cup and she probably wasn't going to come home for, gosh, a long time. So it was just a lot on her. So I appreciate you staying.

CATY McNALLY: I was like, let's stick it out. Let's just win this thing.

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Yeah. So here we are.

Q. If you could just talk about the match. You fell behind a break pretty early on, and then you turned it around and kind of never looked back.

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Yeah. We were down, what, 2-0, then 3-1. I think, like I said before, we were trying to figure out, okay, what we can do well and what they do well, and I think we didn't really have much time to do that. So we just had to kind of stick to

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our game plan and be brave and really set the tone of the match and just start moving a lot and take them out, because they're both great singles players, and we needed to play doubles, and that is what really got us the win. And we really just took charge and played to our strengths.

Q. Well done on the title. Caty, I know initially in your first answer, you talked about how you were able to quickly work together and find the things that worked really well. When you guys play with so many different doubles partners, how is that transition period in finding like a groove or, I guess, connection, for lack of a better term, just to get it flowing?

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: We didn't have much time.

CATY McNALLY: Yeah, we didn't have much time at all. We didn't even practice before our first match. I would say our first match was kind of like a test run. We played night match, really slow conditions. That was a difficult match to get through, I think just trying to figure out how we wanted to play together. And it's never easy, I think, playing with, yeah, different people, but I think we've both done it so many times, you kind of just --

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Adapt.

CATY McNALLY: Yeah, you know how you to want to play, and you adapt. You work together, and that's what you do. You figure out what works best, and you try to just keep hammering it over and over again.

Q. I know, Des, you won the tournament a few years ago, and the big deal about this tournament, there's been a huge investment in the prize money. Can you elaborate how important that is and maybe setting a precedent for other stand alone 500 events?

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Yeah. Caty said it on court, but it's amazing what this tournament has done, the Navarro family and CreditOne just really investing in women's tennis, and it really just sets the standard for other tournaments, and it's amazing, and we just hope the other tournaments kind of follow suit. But like I said, it's incredible what they're doing for us.

Q. And then my last question, it seems to be that the players really enjoy just Charleston, like the tournament, the city. What is your favorite part about Charleston and coming back each year that you have the opportunity to?

CATY McNALLY: Oh, gosh. It's tough to pick like one thing. I think the people here are amazing. Like the southern hospitality is incredible.

I love being able to walk around downtown, like getting up in the morning, if you don't play early, or even if you get back early in the evening, you can walk out of the hotel and be at so many great restaurants. You can go to so many good coffee shops, which I love.

Like the people here at the tournament, every day they are so welcoming, and they make you feel -- like they just make you feel like so, I don't know, just good.

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: It's just warm. It's very warm and welcoming.



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CATY McNALLY: Like kind of like family. And you want to keep coming back every single day and every single year. So I would say like the biggest thing is just the people here are incredible, and they make it -- they make it incredible.

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Yeah. Like the staff, you get to see Bob. They're working so many hours, Bob, Ada, Jen at the players services. Everyone just makes you, like Caty said, makes you feel really welcome and really put you up at the Charleston Place. It's amazing.

Players rave about the player party. It's amazing. Everyone loves going to that. Everyone just seems to be happy here, and doesn't matter if you lose first round or not, people are going to stay here for a couple days and really enjoy it. That's why it's the 500 of the year, and they just do an amazing job.

Q. Congratulations, guys. Going off of that a little bit, does doubles feel different here? We were out on court, and you felt it today as well. But what's sort of the doubles lens of Charleston itself, because the crowd seems to show up sometimes even more so than the singles.

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Yeah. Even from, yeah, we were playing our first round match. We played a late match, and there were so many fans that were out there, and that just kind of shows. And me specifically I play doubles solely, so I definitely appreciate that a lot.

And today is Easter, and they all came out and supported us. So it's amazing the atmosphere and the fans that -- but I think the tournament itself, they do a great job of bringing people and really showcase every singles and doubles. Yeah.

CATY McNALLY: There's nothing really, yeah, you kind of said it, to be honest. Like I wasn't really sure how the crowd was going to be, it being Easter, and like 11 a.m. start. A lot of people are going to church, or just spending time with family. And I mean, they showed out. From the first point, they were behind us, and it was a really special feeling. And, yeah, it's super great. Like even practices, people are coming out, singles, doubles, practices. They're coming out to support. And I think we really feel that, and it's really special.

Q. Did the either of you take advantage of a Bryan Bros' tip or two yesterday?

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: No, but honestly --

CATY McNALLY: Yes, you did. She was all over the net yesterday, and Bob, my partner, Bob, once I finally figured out who Bob and Mike were, because I couldn't remember.

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: She was like, who am I playing with?

CATY McNALLY: I'm like I'm playing with Bob. And I'm like, are you Bob? And he was like, no, I'm Mike.

But Bob was like, "Des is all over the net." And I'm like, all right, Des, you're doing that tomorrow, and she was all over the net today. So you did take some tips.

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: I did take some tips, but I was like, you gotta do the same thing.

CATY McNALLY: She's going for it.



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DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: I'm doing it. I hope it made all the doubles players proud, especially them. The exhibition was fun, kind of was a really good warmup for today.

Q. So we could be in for a Players Box sweep if Jesse wins today?

DESIRAE KRAWCZYK: Yeah. Let's hope. Fingers crossed. Can't wait to go watch her.

CATY McNALLY: Thanks, guys.

End of Interview

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