

Miami Open presented by Itaú

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

Miami, FL USA

Tommy Paul

Press Conference



T.PAUL/T. Etcheverry

6-1, 6-3

Moderator

Congratulations on your first Miami Open quarterfinal. How are you feeling?

Tommy Paul

Pretty good. Where'd you learn that? (laughing) It was nice to get the win today. Very happy to be in my first quarters here, sleeping at home always helps.

Question

Congrats Tommy. By the way are you in Boca or Miami?

Tommy Paul

Boca.

Question

When you see the draw open up a little bit, not mentioning names, but does that give you an extra pump of your motivation? Say, Hey, I could win this tournament?

Tommy Paul

I think, you know, everyone, everyone in the draw, obviously, is very good. When you see a guy like Carlos go down, I think everyone kind of thinks it a little bit, you know. I mean, at least that part of the draw has somewhat opened up. But, you know, somebody had to beat Carlos, and they're obviously playing pretty good also. But yeah, I mean, I really just take it one match at a time. You know, I knew in the last round I had to worry about him, and today I had to worry about Tomi, and

tomorrow I got to worry about Fils. So that's all I'm really worried about.

Question

One followup. Talk about Fils. This kid, powerful, is fast. Last year he had a good run here, hurt, I believe. Mentioned that you played him once.

Tommy Paul

Yeah. I mean, we haven't played in a while. I think we played in Shanghai, and it was a really good match, actually. And I think for me, he's one of my favorite players to watch. I mean, I think he's, you know, he's electric, he's super athletic and a really, really good player, and he's young, he's like 21. I mean, he's an exciting player, and I know it's gonna be a tough match. And I think, you know, if I play anything like I did today, we'll have a great match.

Question

Adam Ross, Florida Tennis. Things are really clicking for you. You're playing so well. Can you talk a little bit about what's just going so right for you now? Not to jinx it, but what you're doing great. Can you talk a little bit about it.

Tommy Paul

Thank you. I'm really just focusing on the basics, which, it sounds stupid, I guess, but I'm just focused on putting a return in, getting back to the middle of the court, and making the size of the court as small as I can, running down everything and playing simple tennis. And sometimes simple tennis is the best tennis. So that's kind of been my mindset all week.

Question

At 3-2 in the second you held, it seemed liked you got control the match, and that was a big hold in terms of back and forth. Talk about that game where you seemed to have some great points in that game and a chance to get back in the match.

Tommy Paul

Yeah, I mean, second, second set was, for the most part, I would say I had control. But you're exactly right, that game at 3-2 felt like a very big game. I think he, he picked up his level. I mean, his intensity rose. The crowd was starting to get involved, and I didn't want that at all. I knew, I knew I needed to win that game and I knew I wanted to win that game. So I thought I raised my level a little bit as well. I started throwing some stuff at him that I hadn't done so far. Tried to be a little bit less predictable, and it worked out in that game. So obviously, I thought I handled it pretty solid. And then moving forward, I mean, I think after, after that, I thought I had a lot more control of the set and of the match.

Question

After your success at Delray and now here, you seem you do play really well with these Florida courts.

Tommy Paul

I've been down here for a while. I definitely love sleeping in my bed. We don't, we don't get to do that much as tennis players. So I don't take that for granted at all. I mean, I absolutely love being home, so I think that helps.