Diary Entry from Kelly Adams

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March 9

Most people say that when you spend too much time with someone, you get tired of them. Well, even after spending a whole week nonstop with my teammates and coaches, I'm pretty sure I could stand them even longer. We had so much fun in Texas and couldn't have enjoyed the trip more.

We flew from Nashville to Houston (back to the place where we met the memorable Steven Bauer) and then to Corpus Christi. As soon as we got off the plane we went to watch the [men's team] play. It was so neat going that far and then having the guys there, too! Because of Marc [Boiron's] obnoxious cheering combined with ours, they played excellent.

We stayed on Padre Island in Alison's aunt and uncle's beach house, about 45 minutes from Corpus. After getting acclimated with the house and surroundings, Marlene and I decided it would be so much fun to run into the ocean ... the freezing ocean water. So we walked the 100 yards or so to the beach and charged the water. As soon as the water touched my ankles, I started losing my breath. The water was so cold! But it made for a funny scene at the time and story later on.

On Friday we played our match and everyone was very focused. We beat Corpus Christi 6-1 despite the wind. We were glad when it was over because we would have the next two days to play on the beach! However, we weren't totally off. Because some of us were late to practice the week before, we had to do a beach run Saturday morning, followed by a pool workout. I don't think I've been that tired in a long time. Running on the beach is definitely not a piece of cake. Every single one of us

was sore the next day. That night Claudia (of course) single-handedly pushed me, Pooja and AK in the pool ... with ALL of our clothes on. I wasn't really surprised.

On Sunday we got to relax and then we had a pretty hard practice that afternoon. Everyone was so sunburned from the previous day, so we had to go out and buy a massive bottle of aloe. Now everyone is peeling, so the purpose of lying out and getting a tan was pretty much defeated.

The next morning we flew to Houston (Claudia said she feels like we're at Hobby airport every week). That day and the next we had good practices and mostly relaxed. Wednesday we played the University of Houston. We started with singles because it was so windy, but fell short 4-2. We all agreed that we didn't play our best and should have done better, but we learned from it and the next day we got to practice again in the wind, where we did tons better.

When you're on road trips with the team, there will always be special times that you'll never forget. While we were sitting in the airport in Houston waiting to board the plane for home, we got kind of bored. Claudia, Pooja, AK, Elvira and myself decided we might as well try and earn some extra cash (no, it's not what you're thinking). We lined up against the wall, took some empty coke bottles and started a beat. We then started singing as loud as we could. First it was "Hero" by Enrique Eglesias. Then we sang "I Don't Wanna Miss a Thing" by Aerosmith. Among many others, there was also "If You're Happy and You Know It." That was Pooja's idea. To our surprise, a little old lady came up and dropped a dollar in front of us! We didn't really expect anyone to take us seriously, but we had just come from a match without showering. We kept on. Another man came up and dropped another dollar in front of us. It was too hilarious. As Alison and Carien walked up and heard us, they started dying laughing. We decided to share the profits, and all two bucks would buy us in the expensive airport shops were two packs of starbursts. But they were extra sweet that day. It was one of those times I wish we had gotten on videotape.

Even though we spent our spring break playing tennis, it still felt like spring break. It was good to get away from the books. There were many other memories made on the trip, so much that we could probably all write a book on it! But I think we're also glad to get back to Murfreesboro (Notice I said "Murfreesboro" ... not "school").

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Unfortunately Murray State had three injured players [Saturday], so automatically we had a doubles and singles win each. We beat Murray, 5-2, but the match didn't prove to be a walk-over.

Pooja and Elvira sat out in doubles and cheered us on while we took both the #1 and #2 doubles matches. Then I sat out of singles. Claudia, Pooja and AK won their singles and Elvira and Marlene lost theirs, but like Alison said, everyone was hitting out on the ball and missing the right kind of balls, so it was a good thing.

During the match, Claudia could be heard screaming her lungs out, louder than usual. So when I asked her how she did, I was a little surprised when she said she won 6-1, 6-2! Apparently she needed to get some anger out...

So Thursday we leave for Sweet Home Alabama, to play in Mobile against VCU, Indiana State and South Alabama. Hopefully the weather will be nicer than the last time we were down there!

Kelly Adams

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