

SAN ANTONIO RODDICK LAVALLE ACADEMY'S GAJIC FALLS TO UPSTART VICKERY USTA INTERNATIONAL EVENT

Juliana Gajic, 17, Loses to Florida 14-year-old in Semifinals at USTA International Spring Championships in Southern California

CARSON, Calif., (Saturday, April 10, 2010) – San Antonio's **Juliana Gajic** met one of the U.S.'s top junior tennis prospects on Saturday, falling to 14-year-old Florida sensation **Sachia Vickery**, 6-1, 7-5, in the semifinals at the **USTA International Spring Championships**.

Gajic, who trains at the **Roddick Lavalle Academy** in San Antonio, was well aware of the Vickery name and her big game. "I just didn't come out aggressively in the first set," Gajic said. "I was a little defensive and was making silly mistakes. I was able to pick up my game a little in the second set."

Gajic, 17, said she expects her ITF world junior ranking to jump to somewhere in the low 200s after her best performance at an ITF Grade 1 tournament. "Juliana just had an awesome tournament," one of Gajic's coaches **Trace Fielding** said. "Now she knows she can play with these girls."

Vickery has been coached in the past by Richard Williams, Serena and Venus Williams' father. Vickery, of Miramar, Fla., has also trained at Nick Bollettieri's Academy and is currently training at the USTA National Training Center in Boca Raton, Fla.

The Roddick Lavalle Academy has produced three International Tennis Federation (ITF) Top-10 world-ranked juniors during the past three years, including **Vladimir Ignatik**, formerly No. 1 in ITF in the world and currently ranked in the Top 200 in the ATP world professional rankings.

The original Roddick Total Tennis Academy was founded at the current San Antonio site on Judson Road in 2001 by **John Roddick**, ATP World Top 5 player **Andy Roddick's** older brother and his former coach. John Roddick is currently the head men's tennis coach at the University of Oklahoma and currently resides in Norman, Okla.

Now running the academy are co-directors **Myron Grunberg**, **Leo Lavalle**, **Trace Fielding**, **Alex Gajic** and **Michael Castillo**, who formed a partnership about a year ago and have turned heads with the results the juniors have had recently.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Roddick Lavalle Tennis Academy will be taking part in USTA Tennis Month during the month of May. On May 22, the academy (located at 12615 Judson Road) will be opening its doors to the public and holding a Tennis Block Party from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All Texas junior tennis players are welcome to attend the day-long clinics. There will be a super tie-breaker tournament, food and other on-court games and drills and prizes given away.

About The Roddick Lavallo Academy

The Roddick Lavallo Tennis Academy is located in San Antonio, Texas. RLA strives to emphasize the development of life skills and educate its players to understand that the ideas and concepts learned on the tennis court apply to their lives outside tennis. At RLA, the instructors take a global approach by addressing the physiological, psychological, tactical and technical skills each player needs to reach his full potential. RLA programs include fulltime and single semester boarding, an after-school program, summer camp, and private lessons. Through individualized attention and consistent reinforcement, we maintain high quality standards for student education and enrichment. Multiple options are available with schedules flexible enough to meet training and tournament demands.

The Roddick Lavallo Academy is managed by five business partners and co-directors, all with extensive coaching and playing tennis resumes. They include Myron Grunberg, Leonardo Lavallo, Trace Fielding, Michael Castillo and Alexander Gajic.