

**Hometown: Caracas, Venezuela**

**College Commitment: Boston University**



Almost three years ago, a big decision was made in Barbara's life. She moved all the way to Hilton Head from Caracas, Venezuela with her mother and sister so she could pursue her tennis and her sister, Clementina, could pursue her golf. The decision to come to Smith Stearns was made easier because everyone made Barbara feel at home right away. It also gave her the opportunity to live in a great island environment that was beneficial and healthy for her to succeed. She continues to love being around other successful players and coaches who motivate each other every day like one big family. She thanks all of the coaches for helping her and views them not only as coaches, but as dear friends. The same holds true for the coaches at the academy, as Barbara has always been a favorite to coach as she always works tremendously hard and continues to be dedicated to her tennis after persevering through a tough year of injuries. Her passion for excellence is second to none and is a quality that will lead her to success in all areas of her life.

Some of Barbara's most memorable experiences at the academy have been going on the trip to Universal Studios, training all day in the summer, and playing fun games like Olympics and stickball, but the most important experience she has had was getting the opportunity to meet so many great people and have true friendships that she knows will last a lifetime.



Barbara views her best athletic achievement as earning a world ranking of #278 by the International Tennis Federation as well as getting the opportunity to play division one college tennis on a full scholarship. She has also maintained excellent grades in school and is very proud of now being able to speak fluent English.

Barbara will be a Terrier this fall as she moves north and competes for Boston University. She chose BU because of its excellent academic reputation, architecture program, and the opportunity to play on a great team in the wonderful city of Boston. She is looking forward to helping her team achieve their goals and aims to be a team leader and play as high as #1 in the lineup. We can't wait to see Barbara pursue her goals both on and off the court. Her future will surely be a bright one!