

Pakistanis win £50,000 jackpot

Sports Reporter
Pakistan's cricketers pocketed a fifty thousand pound sterling jackpot bonus when the beat English county leaders Essex by seven wickets at Chelmsford yesterday...

Essex, who enjoyed a four-run lead after Pakistan had declared their first innings at 363 for six on the second day Sunday, resumed the third and final day yesterday on 58 for two...

Then, led by two good half-centuries from Shoaib Mohammad and Asif Mujtaba, they reached 196 for the loss of three wickets to clinch the big prize.

Scores: Essex 357 for nine decl and 188 all out; Pakistan 353 for six decl, and 196 for three.

BCCB lays down players' pool rules

Sports Reporter
Cricketers who have been playing for the Bangladesh national team for the last three years will be included in the so-called players' pool.

This was decided at a meeting of the executive body of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) with Foreign Minister and BCCB president ASM Mustafizur Rahman in the chair late last night.

With the principle thus fixed, the pool is likely to consist of 21 cricketers, a responsible BCCB official told The Daily Star after the meeting.

The final list of the players will be finalised in a day or two, the official said.

No application of retirement from the pool will be entertained this year. Besides, from now on players who will not play in the national championship will not be considered for the Bangladesh national team.

The BCCB also decided to renovate the cricket grounds of the country soon.

RAFIQ RETIRES

Meanwhile, Rafiq-ul-Alam, a player of the Bangladesh national team, has announced his retirement from international cricket.

However, Rafiq will continue playing in local competitions.

In a letter addressed to the president of the BCCB, Rafiq, 33, said that he felt it is time to make room for fresh, promising players.

However, one believes that Rafiq's decision was designed to avoid inclusion in the players' pool.

According to the BCCB resolution, no team will be allowed to recruit more than three players from the pool, a move obviously aimed at ensuring a better spread of the country's top talents, thereby preventing the monopoly of the bigger teams like Abahani and Mohammedans.

Hick has no hard-feeling

LONDON, Aug 3: England batsman Graeme Hick, the batsman who promised much but delivered little, admitted after being left out of the squad for the final Test against Pakistan on Sunday: "I don't deserve to play," reports Reuters.

Hick, at 26 and with almost constant batting failure in his 11 Tests, now faces a crossroads in his cricket career and an anxious wait before the winter tour squad for India is announced next month.

He averages just 18.05 in Tests, although his career average remains just under 60, and England chairman Ted Dexter said: "It was hard decision to leave him out, particularly after his brilliant catching, but other names had prior claims."

"Graeme remains a supremely talented cricketer and must still have a splendid future in the game."

The selectors were doubly reluctant to drop Hick because of his catching ability which has seen him take 22 catches in his 11 Tests, a rate never achieved by any other Test fielder.

Zimbabwe-born Hick, forced to wait until last year before he was qualified to play for England, took the news philosophically.

"It's a situation that has arisen."



OLYMPIC SPECIAL



Great Britain's Sean Kerly tumbles after being tackled by Australian Birmingham during yesterday's hockey match in Terrassa, Spain. Australia blanked defending champions Britain 6-0.

Dutch, Aussies, Germans in semis

TERRASSA, Spain, Aug 3: Australia thrashed Olympic champions Britain 6-0 to reach the semifinals of the Olympic men's hockey tournament on Monday, reports Reuters.

Britain were unlucky to lose by such a wide margin but were unable to penetrate the Australian defence. Australia, fourth in the last two Olympics, forced goals from their first three penalty corners.

Australian captain Warren Birmingham, Jay Stacy and Stephen Davies scored two each. The win also means Germany, widely favoured for the gold, also qualify from Group A.

Australia needed only a draw to qualify and made the perfect start. Birmingham scored from a penalty flick awarded after Britain illegally blocked a flick by Stacy from a penalty corner in the third minute.

Stacy scored with another flick shot from Australia's second penalty corner in the 29th

minute to see Australia into a 2-0 interval lead.

A harsh penalty stroke awarded for Australia within a minute of the start of the second half ended Britain's hopes of Olympic glory as Birmingham scored his second goal.

Two goals within two minutes by Davies added to Britain's misery. He put the finishing touch to Australia's third penalty corner and then beat Sean Rowlands in the British goal with a cross shot.

Stacy scored Australia's last with a cross shot in the 67th minute.

Earlier, world champions the Netherlands overwhelmed Malaysia 6-0 to become the first team to reach the semifinals.

Dutch midfielder Marc Delissen and forward Taco van den Honert both scored hat-tricks for the Dutch, who won the bronze medal at the Seoul Olympics.

The Netherlands have won four of their five pool games in Terrassa outside Barcelona, losing only to three-times Olympic champions Pakistan.

Hosts Spain have to beat Pakistan later on Monday to

deny Pakistan a place in the medal round from qualifying Group B.

Van den Honert, a 26-year-old student, opened the score in the seventh minute with a flick from a penalty corner during a thunderstorm which lasted for most of the first half.

Six minutes later Delissen, 27, scored from a penalty flick awarded after a Dutch shot was blocked by a Malaysian defender's arm. Delissen scored his second by smashing in a loose ball just before half-time.

With the Dutch dominating play, he completed his hat-trick by deflecting in a cross from short range early in the second half.

Van den Honert scored his second in the 53rd minute, touching in a cross from short range. He scored with a flick from a penalty corner in the last minute.

Malaysia's Mohamed Abdul was unlucky not to score early in the first half when the umpire disallowed his goal, ruling that he struck the ball outside the circle. Malaysia beat New Zealand 3-2.

Dutch, Aussie girls miss semis

TERRASSA, Aug 3: Olympic champions Australia and world champions the Netherlands crashed out of the medals hunt in the Olympic women's hockey tournament on Sunday, reports Reuters.

Hosts Spain, making their Olympic debut, beat Australia 1-0 in front of a wildly cheering local crowd to steal a semifinal place from the team widely viewed as gold medal favourites.

Britain squeezed into the semifinals, ahead of the Dutch on goal difference. The Netherlands beat Britain for the bronze medal at the Seoul Olympics and had beaten them 2-1 in a pool game last week.

South Korea, silver medalists in 1988, and Germany complete the semifinal line-up.

Spanish right-half Silvia Marriquet, a 19-year-old student, scored the vital goal against the Dutch with a flick from a penalty corner in the fourth minute.

"It's very frustrating to lose when you dominate a game so much," said Australian coach Bryan Glenross.

His team had numerous scoring chances but could find no way past diminutive Spanish goalkeeper Maria Gonzalez.

In Tuesday's semifinals, Spain will play the Koreans while Germany meet Britain.

"We scraped it," British coach Dennis Hay said after the 3-2 win over a new New Zealand side who had not scored a goal before Sunday's match.

The Germans were beaten by England in the 1991 European Championship final

and Hanel said: "We remember that loss."

Germany began Australia's downfall with a 1-0 win in a pool game on Wednesday.

POINTS TABLE

Following is the points table after the last league matches in Olympic women's hockey (tabulate played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points, goal difference):

Table with columns: GROUP-A, P, W, D, L, GF, GA, PTS, DIFF. Rows include Spain, Germany, Australia, Canada.

Table with columns: GROUP-B, P, W, D, L, GF, GA, PTS, DIFF. Rows include Korea, Britain, Holland, New Zealand.

Gao Min's gold

BARCELONA, Aug 3: China completed a sweep of the women's Olympic diving gold medals when Gao Min successfully defended her Seoul title on the three-metre springboard here Monday, reports AFP.

She won with a total of 572.40 points. Irina Lashko of the Unified Team took the silver with 514.14 and Germany's Brita Baldus scored 503.07 for the bronze medal.

Shooting ends with a dramatic shoot-out

BARCELONA, Aug 3: Olympic shooting ended in dramatic style on Sunday when four marksmen were forced into a sudden-death shoot-out to decide the medals for the trap, reports Reuters.

Petr Hrdlicka of Czechoslovakia proved to have the strongest nerves and won gold, hitting the first fluorescent pink clay in the shoot-out while Japan's Kazumi Watanabe blasted wide and had to settle for silver.

The strain told on Hrdlicka who was too emotional to talk right after the final in cauldron-like conditions at Mollet Del Valles outside Barcelona.

But latter he said: "It's the highest score I've managed in shooting. I had the feeling Watanabe would miss."

The battle for bronze went eight rounds before world champion Marco Venturini of Italy denied Joerg Damme the chance to take bronze, as he did for then-East Germany at the 1980 Games in Moscow.

In the shoot-out, marksmen had just one shot at the clay rather than the two allowed in the rest of the competition.

Damme, now competing for United Germany, had crept up the ranking to lead the closely fought final until he missed his 23rd out of 25 shots and dropped to joint third.

Trap is one of the oldest Olympic shooting categories and like skeet is open to both men and women. Only men made the final six and all but one were on 195 out of a possible 200 points.

After the eight days of shooting at one of the world's most high-tech ranges, the CIS dominated the medals table



GAO MIN... 3-meter springboard queen

Gritty Ghanaians, lucky Aussies reach semis

BARCELONA, Aug 3: Ghana had the stamina, Australia had the luck. Whatever works. Both teams used their particular quality Sunday night to advance to the Olympic soccer semifinals, reports AP.

For Ghana, it took a 2-0 lead early in the second half and seemed to be well on their way to beating Paraguay. But the South Americans rallied on an own goal and another score with nine minutes remaining, requiring Ghana to regroup and score twice in extra time to advance 4-2.

For Australia, a few fortunate bounces earned a 2-1 victory over Sweden and a semifinal meeting Wednesday against Poland.

The first one came after Sweden had created several chances in the opening minutes. But Australia countered in the 29th minute when Carly Vaert raced down the right side outside the penalty area. He crossed the ball to the far side of the area, where John Markovski volleyed it off one bounce and scored into the near side of the net.

"I've scored goals like that before, coming in late," Markovski said. "I put my hand up. Carl saw me. I don't think No 2 [Swedish defender Magnus Johansson] expected me. I threw all of me into it, and it went in."

When asked if Vaert had intended the pass for Markovski, Australian coach Eddie Thomson wasn't so sure.

"Hell if I know," he said. But he was sure about the second.

That came in the 57th minute as Australia lined up for a free kick. Filip Apelstav curled the 30-metre kick into the area, where Patrik Andersson headed it out.

But the ball rolled to Tony Vidmar, who ran up and blasted a left-footed shot back toward the goal. Shaun Murphy, standing in a crowd about 12 metres from the line, deflected the ball up and over Swedish keeper Jan Ekholm into the goal.

That was something Kwame Ayew didn't have a problem with. He scored three to take his tournament-leading total to six, but it was second-half substitute Olli Rahman who came away the hero.

With time running out and the match apparently headed for penalty kicks, Rahman found himself unmarked and with the ball at his feet.

He rifled a 3-metre blast in the 114th minute to give Ghana the lead a semifinal matchup with host Spain in Valencia.

The match winner came after Joachim Yaw Acheampong rang a 30-metre free kick off the crossbar. Ghana controlled the rebound and sent the ball into the penalty area, where Ayew missed on a header from 12 metres.

Rahman was in the right place at the right time and had an easy target.

Tommas Brodin, Sweden's European Championship star, was substituted immediately after Australia's first goal.

Handball final today

Sports Reporter
The final of the 1992 Phoenix Insurance handball competition between defending champions Bangladesh Rifles and Brothers Union will be now held today at 4:30 pm at the Outer Stadium handball court.

Finance Minister Saifur Rahman will witness the final as chief guest and give away the trophies.

Awlad to stay

Sports Reporter
The Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation has not accepted the resignation letter of its general secretary Awlad Hossain.

The executive members of the federation yesterday asked Awlad to carry on for the greater interest of the sport. Awlad had tendered his resignation on Sunday on personal reasons.

Awlad, who also attended the meeting, agreed to stay on.

Nat'l jr hockey

Sports Reporter
Sixteen teams have so far registered their names for the 1992 national youth-under 18 hockey championship beginning from August 17 at the Dhaka Hockey Stadium.

The teams are Dhaka, Faridpur, Mymensingh, Munshiganj, Jessore, Rajshahi, Comilla, Sylhet, Narayanganj, Patuakhali, Noakhali, Rangpur and Chittagong DSAs and the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Pratisthan (BKSP). Dhaka Education Board and the Rajshahi Primary Hockey Coaching Centre.

The Bangladesh Hockey Federation has approved an estimated budget of Taka 1,56,400 for the tourney.

The last date of registration is August 10 while the fixtures will be announced on August 12.

Schools chess

Sports Reporter
National sub-junior chess runner-up Hossain Arif with six and a half points led the table of the seventh Bata schools chess competition after the completion of the seventh-round matches at the National Sports Council chess room.

Arif beat Nazrul Islam, who now has six points, yesterday. Others with six points are national sub-junior champion Shawkat Hossain Pallab, Amir Ali and Abu Sulfyan.

Rana Chowdhury and Salahuddin have five points each. The eighth and final round of the meet will be held today beginning at 3 pm.

Meanwhile, a chess training course for beginners under the auspices of the MM Botwinik Chess Club will begin in the city from August 20.

Senior players of the country will conduct the programme.

Interested boys and girls have been asked to collect forms along with a Taka two hundred entry fee by August 15 from the Bangladesh Chess Federation or the Russian Cultural Centre at Road No 7, Dhanmondi.

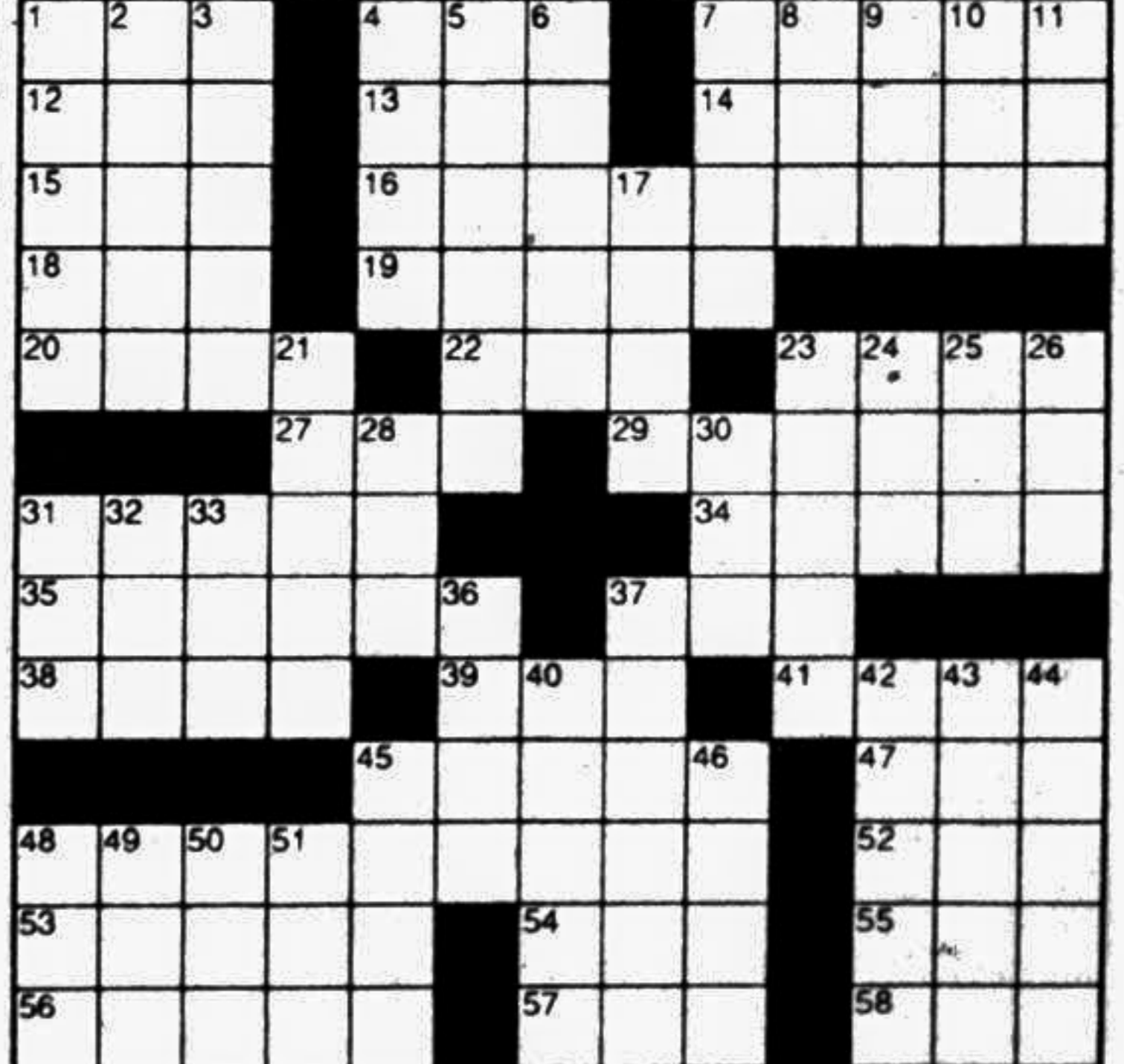
Yachting results

BARCELONA, Aug 3: Jose Maira van der Ploeg of Spain won the Olympic gold medal Monday in the Finn yachting class, reports AP.

Tommas Brodin of the United States took the silver and Stuart Childrey of Britain won the bronze.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 41 Vacillate 25 quated 25 Larry's pal
1 Hot tub 45 Nova 3 He had a 26 Possess
4 Swab lead-in 3 Ball 28 "And —
7 Did 47 Coexist 4 Marathon the
cobblers' work 48 New Mexico fraction opposite
work 49 New Mexico city shade 30 Lamb's dam
12 Football 52 Jewel 6 Costume jewelry 31 Do some yard work
13 Nest-egg acct. 53 Kate's roommate 7 Command to Fido 32 Actress Meyers
14 Diadem for Di 54 — stand-still 8 Dressing ingredient 33 0
15 Pa 55 United the moon 9 Flight 36 Grand: slang
16 Canary Islands 57 Seance sound 10 NOW goal 37 100
18 Plato's H 58 A Bobbsey "Kapital" centimos
19 Word in a dictionary, e.g. 59 twin 17 Quarry 40 1991
20 Demolish 1 Fencing implement 23 Movie rickrack 42 Cart
22 "Holy cow!" 2 Michelangelo 24 Anti-sampling 43 Where the action is
23 "It's impossible" crooner SOLUTION TIME: 25 mins.
27 Conk out BOG FILE BANE
29 Cowardly OUR IRON ALAW
31 Tropical MODELS DEB ALA EAR LOUIS
fruit RIMS MOW OGLE
34 Swell KNEEL WAC AIX
35 East DOT GARNET
37 Vigor SENATOR NOD
38 Unrestrained ALLIT QUANDARY
39 Prop for Markham's man LINE UNDO NEA
TEED ETON SOW



CRYPTOQUIP
S U S Q Z S O K E G F V N O Q Z
U E G F X O , U Z X Q S G ' V
Z N J B S Q S G B J X V N K X .

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Q equals C

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Strength & yell help 'em do well

BARCELONA, Aug 3: The eyes bulge. The athlete grimaces as if in pain. And then comes a yell. Or a growl.

No, it's not Monica Seles at Wimbledon. It's a weightlifter at the Olympics.

And when they reach for the sky, the result is an explosion of sound that would make anything heard on Centre Court sound like a whimper, reports AP.

Take Waldemar Malak, Polish winner of the bronze medal in Sunday's heavyweight (100-kilogram, 220-pound) class.

He walks on to the stage shouting a word to himself that sounds something like "Ross." He scurries around and then grips the bar, his eyes in a frozen, unfocused stare.

Then he makes a noise like a steam engine puffing along. And when he lifts the 181-kilogram (400-pound) barbell, he yells as if he's just been hit by one.

What ever it does for him, it works. He combined a snatch of 185 kilograms (407 3-4 pounds) with a clean and jerk of 215 kilograms (473 3-4 pounds) to gain an unexpected bronze behind two Unified Team lifters, Victor Tregubov and Timour Taimazov.

Tregubov, a Russian, equaled the Olympic snatch record of 190 kilograms (418

3-4 pounds) in a winning total of 410 kilograms (903 3-4 pounds) and Taimazov, a Ukrainian, had 402.5 (887 1-4).

Lifting weights of up to 266 kilograms (587 pounds) — the clean and jerk world record owned by Russian Leonid Tarasenko — calls for mental toughness as well as muscular strength.

The muscles tell a lifter he can't lift a weight, the mind tells him he can.

So they go through some elaborate routines before lifting.

Tim McRae, a lightweight from the United States, closes his eyes tight, and screws up his face even before he touches the bar.

"It's just concentration," he said. "It doesn't matter how I look as long as I lift the weight."

It worked, too, as he tied two US records at the games to take eighth place.

Arnold Franqui Lopes, a Puerto Rican lightweight, gets himself worked up for a lift by turning his back to the bar until the moment he is ready to lift.

Some of the Chinese, Japanese and Koreans seem to bow politely to it.

Some lifters do some odd things when they have got the bar in their hands.

weight Edmilson Dantas sometimes turns a complete circle with the bar in the air to keep balanced.

And the lifter with probably the loudest yell?

The Algerian named Abdelmanane Yahiaout.

Golden booty for Spanish armada

BARCELONA, Aug 3: The Spanish armada captured Olympic gold Sunday with two top medals, while two Americans stayed ashore with their gold when rivals raced for silver, reports AP.

Spaniards Luis Dorsete and Domingo Manrique sailed in the day's light winds to take the gold in the Dutchman class. Bronze went to Paul Forster and Stephen Bourdow of the United States and Danes Jorgen and Jens Bojsen of Denmark finished third.

Spain clinched another gold in the Finn class Sunday, even though the final race is scheduled on Monday. Jose Vander Ploeg was so far ahead after Sunday's race that he is guaranteed the medal.

The Spanish sailor can sit out the race and still have only 33.40 points, lower than the next best sailor Brian Ledbetter of the United States, who had 43 points after Sunday's races.

New Zealand's Barbara Kendall won the gold in the women's windsurfing.