

China need one more

AFP, Osaka

Wang Nan of China won the women's singles title at the World Table Tennis Championships on Saturday as the sport's dominant nation headed inexorably towards winning every event here.

Chinese duo Wang Liqin and Yan Sen also won the men's doubles event Saturday, beating compatriots Kong Linghui and Liu Guoliang 3-0.

With Wang and Kong competing in Sunday's singles final, six of seven gold medals have now fallen to the all-powerful ping pong giant.

The gold medal for Wang, who defeated yet another compatriot, Lin Ling, by 3-1 in the final, was one of the more predictable results in world sport given her current domination of women's table tennis.

The game Wang lost to Lin en route to victory was the only one the top seed conceded in all seven rounds of competition.

However Lin, seeded 11 and who had never previously got beyond the last 32 of the women's draw, played well, trading smashes with her opponent and making Wang work hard to take the decisive fourth game.

After the final Wang, also the Olympic champion, agreed she "did very well in the tournament".

Accepting that the Chinese players were now by far the best in the world, Wang said this was because of the hard work and training they had put in.

Rain

FROM PAGE 13

Azam c Rashid b Odumbe	30
Nafees c Mortuza b Odumbe	15
Asad c b Sanwar	19
S Malik c Rashid b Sanwar	26
Anis st Mortuza b Mustadir	6
Neeamur b Sanwar	8
Hasan not out	10
Salim run out	2
Iqbal c Parvez b Sanwar	0
Arman not out	5
Extras: (lb-6, w-12)	18
Total: (For 9 wks in 33 overs)	160
Fall of wickets: 1/33, 2/62, 3/94, 4/101, 5/130, 6/136, 7/145, 8/148, 9/150.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Taposh	6	0	23	0
Shafiuddin	6	0	28	1
Odumbe	5	0	17	2
Parvez	2	0	13	0
Tikolo	2	0	14	0
Sanwar	6	0	28	4
Mustadir	6	0	31	1

MOHAMMEDAN SC	O	M	R	W
Rashed not out	10			
Harun lbw b Iqbal	10			
Tikolo c & b Neeamur	5			
Parvez c Azam b Iqbal	6			
Sanwar not out	9			
Extras: (lb-2, w-1)	4			
Total: (For 3 wks in 9.4 overs)	43			

Fall of wickets: 1/17, 2/27, 3/34.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Iqbal	5	0	12	2
Neeamur	3	0	22	1
Hussain	1.4	0	7	0

Result: Match abandoned due to rain and start anew from Sunday morning.



Abahani skipper Azam Iqbal (L) and his Mohammedan counterpart Minhazul Abedin leave the field while talking to match referee Carlton Bernardus after the final Premier Division Cricket Super League encounter was abandoned at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Eng undecided about team

Cricket

INTERNET, London

Chairman of selectors David Graveney has indicated that England may go into the first Test against Pakistan with a side including seven specialist batsmen.

There are only six batsmen in the list of 12 players awarded central contracts by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) — captain Nasser Hussain, Michael Atherton, Marcus Trescothick, Graham Thorpe, Alec Stewart and Michael Vaughan.

The selectors are now scouring the country and Graeme Hick, Mark Ramprakash and Nick Knight will all hope to press their

claims for a recall.

But England could instead go for a new face from the ranks of the 'A' team which toured the West Indies during the winter, like Surrey opener Ian Ward, or someone in excellent form on the county scene.

Graveney was at Bristol on Friday, with Glamorgan's Michael Powell one of the players under scrutiny.

"We'll go to Lord's with both options covered — in other words, playing a balanced attack or going with seven batsmen," Graveney told Sky Sports.

Seam bowlers Dominic Cork and Matthew Hoggard, who have central contracts, are recovering well from injuries.

But Graveney said they would

both be expected to get a first-class match under their belts before the Test squad is picked.

Cork has the chance when Derbyshire face Pakistan next week, while Hoggard could play for Yorkshire against Somerset in the County Championship.

"I know everybody looks at Australia but the challenge of Pakistan is not to be underestimated," Graveney added.

"I think they're a stronger side away from home and certainly all the stuff about internal rowing, I think that's all a bit of a smoke-screen."

"I'm sure they'll come at us very strong."

The first Test starts on 17 May, with the second match a fortnight later at Old Trafford.

Ulirach halts Squillari

AFP, Munich

Franco Squillari's unbeaten dream run at the 400,000-dollar Munich Open came to an abrupt end on Friday as Czech Bohdan Ulirach eliminated the Argentine 6-4, 6-4 in the quarterfinal.

The loss at the event was the first-ever for third-seed Squillari after the South American had won the previous two events on the Iphitos club clay.

But Squillari's form dropped on the day, allowing journeyman Ulirach to eliminate the tournaments only remaining seed. Ulirach had a 2-1 lead over Squillari after beating him at the Masters on hard court at Indian Wells earlier this year.

Unl Friday, Squillari had been a notable survivor on a court where top name including Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Thomas Enqvist and Marcelo Rios had all failed.

Top seeded Russian Kafelnikov, yet to win a match this season on clay, went out in the opening round, while Sweden's number two seed Enqvist, a semi-finalist at Barcelona last week, and number six Rios from Chile, both lost in the second round.

Squillari had felt completely in his element in Munich, site of two of his three career titles. "I always seem to play my best tennis here," he said before the fall.

With Squillari out it was down to a list of non-seeds and two qualifiers to provide the excitement in the weekend wrap-up.

Roddick reaches last four

AFP, Houston

Red-hot American teenage sensation Andy Roddick posted a convincing 6-3, 6-1 victory over Stefan Koubek of Austria on Friday night to reach the semifinals of the US Men's Claycourt Championships.

Seeking his second straight ATP title, Roddick finished off Koubek in 49 minutes to extend his winning streak to eight matches, which includes a victory over the Austrian in last week's semifinals at Atlanta.

Third seed Jerome Golmard of France will meet Roddick in the semi-finals Saturday after rolling to an easy 6-3, 6-2 win over unseeded Czech Jiri Vanek.

Roddick, the reigning world junior champion, made an immediate impact on the tour in March when he defeated former world number one Pete Sampras at the Ericsson Open in Miami en route to his first career quarter-final.

Last week, the 18-year-old made the most of his first career claycourt tournament by winning the Verizon Tennis Challenge in Atlanta. Roddick became the first US teenager to win an ATP title since 19-year-old Michael Chang did so at San Francisco in 1992.

Roddick has not dropped a set in three matches this week as he goes for back-to-back titles.

In the upset of the day, eighth seed Hyung-Taik Lee of South Korea advanced to his first career ATP semi-final at the expense of second seed Andrew Ilie of Australia 6-4, 2-6, 6-2.

Murtagh

FROM PAGE 13

Extras: (lb-1, w-1) 2
Total: (All out in 85.5 overs) 316
Fall of wickets: 1-48, 2-171, 3-189, 4-189, 5-244, 6-244, 7-249, 8-249, 9-250

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tournier	19	6	67	0
Elstub	17	4	65	2
Murtagh	22.5	3	86	6
Ferley	18	7	66	2
Dalrymple	9	2	31	0

Pybus

FROM PAGE 13

ing the Test series against New Zealand, is facing a challenge for his place from 20-year-old fast bowler Mohammad Sami and Shoaib Akhtar, who is expected to join the squad at the weekend after undergoing extra fitness tests in Pakistan.

The former Lancashire all-rounder used his ample knowledge of English cricket to fully exploit the Nottingham pitch.

But Sami did not enjoy the same results as his experienced teammate, a point acknowledged by Pybus.

He said: "It was probably easier for Wasim this morning than it was for Waqar and Sami, because a lot of their rhythm bowling would be better suited to warmer weather — and they were not going to get carried away out there."

Pybus had sympathy for Sami, who was surprised by the amount of swing he managed in English conditions.

"It is a learning process for him, and I don't think he could believe how much it was swinging this morning," he said.

"But if you've got Wasim and Waqar standing at mid-off and mid-on when you are bowling, you are not going to get much better advice than that."

Contrasting camps

Cricket

REUTERS, St. George's

West Indies skipper Carl Hooper says there is not enough quality in his squad to rotate players in this weekend's one-day matches against South Africa.

The seven-match series is tied at 1-1 after the opening matches in Jamaica and Antigua. But with back-to-back games over the weekend, the opportunity is there for one of the teams to take a commanding 3-1 lead.

South African skipper Shaun Pollock is already making plans to combat the debilitating effects of consecutive games by rotating his starting XI.

However, Hooper admitted on Friday that his options were more limited.

"We'd like to rotate but I don't think we have the quality of players to do that," he said.

"We need to have the best 11 players on the field, we're not in South Africa's position where we can rotate and still have a reasonably strong team. We have key players and those players must play."

Pollock, speaking before a light

practice on Friday, seemed less concerned about the double-header.

"It's going to be hard work playing back-to-back games. We've done it in Australia before but we don't often do it."

"As much as we'd like to win both the games here, we also have an opportunity to rest a few guys and give opportunities to others."

"We have a core of players which is unlikely to change, but we can rotate the other players. I don't know exactly what we'll do just yet but we need to keep some freshness in the camp," Pollock said.

One of South Africa's six national selectors, Morris Garda, is travelling with the squad and believes that as many as seven players cannot be rested.

"The opening batsmen (Gary Kirsten and Herschelle Gibbs), the key all-rounders — Pollock, Jacques Kallis, Lance Klusener, wicketkeeper Mark Boucher and, of course, Jonty Rhodes — are very unlikely to be sitting on the bench, unless they are injured," Garda said on Friday.

"It is important to rest the fast bowlers and sometimes we may decide to opt for an all-seam attack and the leave the spinner out."

"There are still permutations open to us but we are very keen to give everyone in the squad a chance and to see how the younger players perform under international pressure."

Allan Donald and Roger Telemachus are likely to play just one of the weekend's matches with fellow pacemen Makhaya Ntini and the uncapped Andre Nel likely to feature.

Another all-rounder, Justin Kemp, may squeeze out combination spinner Justin Ontong if conditions seem likely to favour the faster bowlers.

Batsmen Boeta Dippenaar and Neil McKenzie, who is recovering from a hamstring strain, may also rotate places in the middle order.

Pollock, though, knows there will be no rest for him.

"It's difficult to rotate the key players. I know I've got five matches left but I've got three months' rest after that," he said.

Hooper is more concerned about simpler issues.

"We must try and get all three facets of the game to click consistently — batting, bowling and fielding," he said.

"I'm not so worried about the batting but the bowling is a worry — certainly in the first 15 overs."

Dokic downs Sanchez-Vicario

Tennis

AFP, Itumburg

Yugoslav teenager Jelena Dokic upset three-time champion Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario 3-6, 7-6 (7/5), 6-2 on Friday to earn a showdown with top seed Venus Williams in the semifinals of the 535,000 dollar Betty Barclay Cup.

Although the 18-year-old, who reverted back to her Yugoslav citizenship earlier this year revoking her Australian passport, made a disastrous start and appeared to be heading towards defeat.

However, she pulled her game together after double-faulting for the fifth time to lose the opening set.

Hitting the ball far more positively, she broke the 29-year-old Spaniard twice to lead 3-0, and then kept her nerve as the number four seed fought her way to take

the set to a tiebreak.

That went Dokic's way, and in the deciding set she always looked the more confident player.

Breaking for 3-1 and then again for the match, she tied up an unlikely victory in 2hr 8min.

"Right now I'm probably playing better than I ever have," said a delighted Dokic.

"I've been working hard on clay, and I had an ambition not to lose to her again."

"If it had been on grass I would have had more chance than on red clay and it was really heavy conditions today, but just fighting out there got me through it."

Having lost her last three matches to Sanchez-Vicario, Dokic admitted she was nervous at the start.

"It was very cold, and I think I was a little bit tight as well," she said.

"I just couldn't get any rhythm and that's where I lost the set."



Yugoslav Jelena Dokic celebrates her victory over Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario.

I attacked a lot more and was more aggressive after that. I made a lot more shots, and although she got back I think it was a different story in the second set. The points were a lot longer," she added.

While Williams claimed an easy 6-1, 6-1 win over Italy's Sylvia Farina Elia, and seventh seeded American Meghann Shaughnessy beat Patty Schnyder of Switzerland 6-4 6-4, second seed Amanda Coetzer had a real struggle to fight off Justine Henin.

Coetzer held a point to lead 4-0 before the sixth seeded Belgian fought her way into the match and then broke to serve for the first set at 5-4.

But Coetzer responded by breaking her to love and also winning the next two games to claim the set.

Henin edged the second set, but the 29-year-old South African gained the breakthrough in the decider with a crosscourt forehand winner to lead 4-2.

"I started off well and took the ball early and didn't give her a lot of time, and then she started to hit the ball a little bit deeper and I couldn't play the same game," said Coetzer.

"I think it was a really good match. A lot of the points were really, really tough, but it's the kind of match I'm excited about because I think all the points were important and we both played pretty well."

Philippoussis doubtful

AFP, Sydney

Australia's Mark Philippoussis is unlikely to play in the French Open and may also miss Wimbledon too, his manager said here Friday.

Philippoussis has not hit a ball since undergoing a second operation to repair cartilage damage in his left knee last March, John McCurdy said.

He had initially expected to be sidelined for at least two months and had hoped to make a comeback for Wimbledon starting at the end of June.

"He was always very doubtful for the French (Open) ... he's tentative for the grass season in England," McCurdy said.

"He's recovering in Miami, going through his rehab and taking things easy. He's not doing much at the moment."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36 Raw materials	2 Judge Lance	23 Contradictions in terms
1 Pick-pockets	37 Squander	3 Animal foot	24 Admonisher's word
5 ... and their apprehenders	38 Haddock on the menu	4 Cloth used for buffing	26 Pigeons' vocabulary
9 Satchel	40 Jet forth	5 Last few notes	27 Mr. Chaney
12 Sundance venue	42 Discoverer's cry	6 Newspaper section	28 Tend texts
13 Stage statuette	43 Jabber	7 Snapshot	29 Info
14 Actress	49 A Great Lake	8 Cassandra, e.g.	31 Makes weblike patterns on fabric
15 Yellow quality?	50 Architect Saarinien	9 "This just in" items	34 Sibling's nickname
17 —	51 Switch positions	10 On	35 Twain tyke
18 Beef	52 Went under	11 Long cut	37 Drenched
19 "Honey-mooners" role	53 Picnic hamperer	16 Actor Stephen	38 Section of London
21 Scent	DOWN	21 Venomous vipers	39 "House Without a Key" hero
24 Editor's order	1 French nobleman	22 Hinge (on)	40 Epidemic
25 Alluring, plus	Solution time: 25 mins.		41 Cheat at hide-and-seek
26 In a room	PAWS LIP PART		42 S B H H O X I S N Q X F R M
30 Thickens	ADELAIDE OGEE		43 Yesterday's Cryptiquip: I WOULD LIKE TO READ THAT NEW BOOK ABOUT WELDING, AS I'VE HEARD IT'S RIVETING.
31 Roger Rabbit's ilk	DOBERMAN POET		Today's Cryptiquip Clue: F equals E
32 —	UMP TOGGLE		
33 Paralel or host	PARTY TABU		
35 Wield the scissors	GOT DECOY WRY		
	MEGATON VICE		
	ONUS EIGHT		
	ZODIAC ARR		
	ALIT HABITATS		
	PTINE ELOQUENT		
	SOAR NAY ERTI		

1	2	3		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13					14		
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38	39					40	41				
42				43	44				45	46	47
48				49					50		
51				52					53		

CRYPTOQUIP

Yesterday's Cryptiquip: I WOULD LIKE TO READ THAT NEW BOOK ABOUT WELDING, AS I'VE HEARD IT'S RIVETING.
Today's Cryptiquip Clue: F equals E
The Cryptiquip 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 clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

(সওজ) সংক্ষিপ্ত দরপত্র আহ্বানের বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১। দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং	১১/সুসবি/২০০০-২০০১ইং
২। কাজের নাম	২০০০-২০০১ইং অর্থ বৎসরে সুনামগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগীয় বিভিন্ন সড়কের বিভিন্ন কিং মিঃএ সড়ক মেরামত কাজের জন্য ১ম শ্রেণী/পি, জে, ইন্টার আধলা, ভাঙ্গা পাথর, পি-গ্রেডেলস বালি ও সিনথেটিক ব্যাগ সরবরাহ কাজ-৩ (তিন) গ্রুপে।
৩। প্রাক্কলিত মূল্য	গ্রুপ তালিকা মোতাবেক।
৪। বায়নার টাকা	—এ—
৫। কার্যসম্পাদনের সময়	—এ—
৬। ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা	—এ—
৭। দরপত্র প্রাপ্তির কার্যালয়সমূহের নাম	নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী/নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট/মৌঃ বাজার/হবিগঞ্জ/পরিচালনা ও নকসা বিভাগ, কুমিল্লা/প্রানিং বিভাগ-১ (পি এন্ড ডি) ঢাকা/উপ-বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), সুনামগঞ্জ/হাতক/যাক্রিক, সুনামগঞ্জ।
৮। দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী কার্যালয়ের নাম	নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী/অতিরিক্ত প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), কুমিল্লা জোন, কুমিল্লা/তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), সড়ক সার্কেল, সিলেট/প্রকিউরমেন্ট ও মনিটরিং সার্কেল, ঢাকা।
৯। যে কার্যালয়ে দরপত্র খোলা হইবে	নিম্নস্বাক