

Seamaster 2017 ITTF World Tour Platinum
China Open
22-25 Jun 2017

Flash Quotes

25 Jun 2017 (Day 4)

OVTCHAROV Dimitrij (GER) after beating BOLL Timo (GER) 4-3 to claim the Men's Singles title:

About him saving 4 match points to win in the seventh game:

"In the seventh game, I was leading 5-2 at the start, lost few easy balls and my whole game broke apart. Timo took over and played really smart with placement. At 6-10, I didn't believe I could win anymore, but at the relaxation of that feeling, I won six point straight to win this Gold. I think luck was on my side for me today for this victory."

DING Ning (CHN) after beating SUN Yingsha (CHN) 4-1 to win the Women's Singles title:

"I didn't really have any big goals coming into the tournament, just wanted to play match by match, so I'm very pleased with this result."

"There's always a period of fall after a major tournament (World Championships), so I'm actually not in good form this time. Right from the start of the tournament till now, I feel that I don't have enough energy, and I've been adjusting all the time."

UEDA Jin / YOSHIMURA Maharu (JPN) after beating HARIMOTO Tomokazu / KIZUKURI Yuto (JPN) to claim the Men's Doubles Title:

Jin UEDA:

"Usually I pair with left-handed players, but we have paired each other 3 years ago, so this time even Yoshimura is a right-handed player, we are very familiar with each other."

Maharu YOSHIMURA:

"To participate in this kind of tournaments has nothing to do with their age, and also they are very strong players so we just focus on ourselves and play at our best. "

Tomokazu HARIMOTO:

"1 year ago I paired KIZUKURI but I'm not very good when pairing left-handed players. I'm very surprised that this time we can make it into final."

Yuto KIZUKURI:

"I did pair with Harimoto before but we didn't have too good records. I didn't expect that this time we could win Chinese players. Since we won them, I also hope we play very well in the final."

DING Ning / LIU Shiwen (CHN) after beating CHEN Meng / ZHU Yuling (CHN) 3-1 to win the Women's Doubles title:

LIU ShiWen:

"After we won World Championships, our partnerships is getting better and it boosted our confidence. Also we are well prepared for the National Game."

ZHU Yuling:

"We are very familiar with each other. we perform at our average and who wins who loses is all normal."

24 Jun 2017 (Day 3)

SUN Yingsha (CHN) after winning 4-0 against FENG Tianwei (SGP) to reach Women's Singles Semifinals:

"I'm in good form today, and was able to implement what I have been training in this match. This is my best performance at the China Open so far, I really wanted to win as it is the last match against a foreign player."

"My last encounter against Feng Tianwei, I think I didn't play my full potential, this time I'm fully prepared because I know it won't be an easy match against her. Today I could basically anticipated where the ball was going. She was well prepared today as well, but my performance & adaptation on court was not bad."

About Feng Tianwei catching up in each game to level the game score:

"I think it's all normal. She's a World Champion and a famous player with more experience than me. It's normal for her to catch up in the game, the important thing for me is to set my mindset right and play point by point."

"If Liu Shiwen wins this match(against Ishikawa), next match I'll play my best to fight against her."

FENG Tianwei:

"I think I'm too slow today, in the execution of the first three shots and generally in the whole match. My physical strength has declined from playing so many tournaments, so this is something that I'm not at an advantage as compared to these younger athletes."

“She’s also faster and more advanced (in terms of skills), so I wasn’t able to cope with that during the match.”

“I’m not in top form now, I was ill earlier on. There’s more competitions coming up soon, the Australian Open, T2 league matches, so it’s a big challenge for my stamina. I will have to take a good rest over the next few days.”

OVTCHAROV Dimitrij (GER) after beating OSHIMA Yuya (JPN) 4-3 to reach Men’s Singles Semifinals:

“So far I have never had a good start here, from the first round until now, I was down 1-2, 0-4 in the fourth game and when I took the point from 1-4, he was insecure and I took my chance and suddenly it was 8-4 for me.”

“Table tennis is so quick, I was close to win 4-2, and in the first game I was up 10-8. you have to be very concentrated and deal with all kind of situations that can happen in the game.”

“It was as usual a very tough match against Yuya, we played three times on the international stage and all matches ended up in the last game, it’s very tight between us.”

“I tried to play a lot of my backhands down the line because he’s always trying to step around to play kind of a Ma Long system, of course it’s not the same, but this kind of system is tough for players who use a lot of forehand. I prefer players who use more backhand so I try to divert his forehand by playing backhand down the line few times, and it worked well.”

23 Jun 2017 (Day 2)

HARIMOTO Tomokazu / KIZUKURI Yuto (JPN) after beating FAN Zhendong / XU Xin (CHN) 3-2 to reach Men’s Doubles Final:

KIZUKURI:

“We were no match to them in the first 2 games, as we can’t foresee how they will return the ball & the power of the returning shot. But we managed to adapt slowly, we are very happy to win eventually.”

“We didn’t think too much prior to the match, we just want to play our best, we are pleased with the result, next up is the final, we hope to win Gold and bring it back to Japan.”

HARIMOTO:

“We played as the challengers in the match, at the start we gave ourselves too much pressure, but as the match progressed, we told ourselves to just face them like other players.”

"We never gave up in the match and was ready to fight till the end. It still feels like in a dream to me, I never thought that we will reach this position. Next we will face our Japanese seniors in the final, so I'm nervous. Even though both pairs are Japanese, we are still determined to put up our best performance like we did in this match (against Fan Zhendong & Xu Xin), and win Gold."

FAN Zhendong:

"We were leading at the start, but weren't meticulous enough in the third game, we also gave them more room in the crucial points in the fourth & fifth game. I think we let our guards down after winning the first two games, and it got harder to focus towards the end of the match."

"We are not in good luck, more unforced errors. Towards the later part of the match, the threat from Kizukuri was greater, and missed few match points. The last part was just out of our control."

XU Xin:

"Both of them fought aggressively, no matter when they were leading or trailing behind. It was easier in the first two games. We are not familiar with Kizukuri and we are not used to his play and placement."

"We were too reserved in the fourth & fifth game."

HIRANO Miu (JPN) after beating LI Jie (NED) 4-0 in the Women's Singles Round of 16:

"I'm not fond of playing against defenders, but winning 4-0 this time does give me more confidence. I've been training hard on playing against defenders while preparing for the World Championships, so this is probably a result of that period of training."

About tomorrow's match against DING Ning (CHN)

"Although I won once, she beat me during the World Championships. Tomorrow I will play the match as a challenger."

"Although there's many areas for me to review and work on, I haven't had the time to practise what we have learnt, so tomorrow will be more dependent on how I perform & adapt on court."

If she felt that the Chinese team has been studying her:

"Yes, I do feel that at the Japan Open & at the World Championships, but it's something that I need to overcome. If I want to win Gold, I need to defeat the Chinese, because it's always the Chinese winning Gold."

About Sun Yingsha imitating her style while the Chinese were having their closed door training, does that mean her playing style is more advanced:

“After changing to a more aggressive style of play, I do feel it’s better, and I’m glad that I made the change.”

“The Chinese players still have better results, they are like a high wall. But I think I still have a chance of surpassing them.”

UEDA Jin / YOSHIMURA Maharu (JPN) after beating KARLSSON Kristian / PERSSON Jon (SWE) 3-1 to reach Men’s Doubles Final:

UEDA Jin:

“Because I seldom play internationally, there’s lesser information available about me, so there’s a lot of opportunities and advantages for me.”

“It’s been a long awaited competition, I played in the role of a challenger.”

YOSHIMURA Maharu:

About change in partner for Men’s Doubles:

“I think in preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, the testing of new partnerships is important.”

“Niwa also have a new partner now, it’s something good for the JTTA. The last time I partnered with Ueda was 3 or 4 years ago, so it’s been a long time. But our partnership this time round is not for Tokyo 2020, it’s for us to get ready for the next World Championships, so it’s good for us.”

“Karlsson & Persson are both strong opponents, for us as challengers, we have to fight and tackle whatever comes in our way. It’s not about opposing their strategies, but to play our own style.”

22 Jun 2017 (Day 1)

SAMSONOV Vladimir (BLR) after losing 3-4 to HARIMOTO Tomokazu (JPN) in the Men’s Singles Round of 32:

“He is playing well. especially for his age. I had some chances i think, but the guy has a lot of potential, definitely. but I don’t see him as a little boy because I know he has beaten already very strong player in the past. he was in the quarterfinals of the world championships. so you have to take him as a top player.”

HARITMOTO:

"When I was 2-3 behind, I calm myself down. He barely makes any mistake so I have to play fiercely when I was leading."

FAN Zhendong (CHN) after beating MACHI Asuka (JPN) 4-2 in the Men's Singles Round of 32:

"Recently I play so many matches, so the preparation is not enough. I did not activate and excite myself as usual. The second set I was doing quite good. When I was leading I thought I could win this game but then I lost it. Perhaps it's because my opponent plays very well too. There's no problem with my tactics, but I have to be more concentrated during the match. I will take a good rest later; now my priority is to restore energy and physical strength."

XU Xin (CHN) after winning 4-0 against LEBESSON Emmanuel (FRA) in the Men's Singles Round of 32:

Q: You were leading 7-2 in the second game, but LEBESSON come back to 7-7. What were you thinking then?

"We stop the game for a very long time, because they are talking to the umpire about his serve. I lost a bit concentration during the match."

"The third game he attacks more aggressively, I made some unnecessary errors. But when I was behind my mindset is better."

"Today's match is rather relaxed but it would be tough tomorrow. Last time we played against Ho and Wong we won 4-3 at WTTC men doubles. As for men's single, my opponent is strong. Samsonov probably will win. Tomorrow would be more difficult."

HIRANO Miu (JPN) after winning JIANG Huajun (HKG) 4-1 in the Women's Singles Round of 32:

"After World Championships, Japan open and now China open, I do feel a bit tired, but I still performed well, so I'm feeling good now. And I'm happy to win the match. I didn't pair with Kasumi Ishikawa in women double because after China open I'm heading to Australia open. Playing four tournaments in such short time would be tiring. That's why I didn't play women double this time."

FLORE Tristan /LEBESSON Emmanuel (FRA) after beating NIWA Koki / OSHIMA Yuya (JPN) 3-1 in the Men's Doubles Round of 16:

LEBESSON Emmanuel: "The first set we lead 7-2 and we have so much mistakes, and we save the game. So afterwards we went better and better, we can only play better and better, and we get this game. The key of the match is the second match, we went 14-12 and after we lead 2-0."

And then we feel more relaxed and a little more confident. It's a new pair, for them. They both are very good players but they have never played together, so for us it's an advantage to play against the partner. Today we play our match without too much mistakes and I think the end is really good for us. We are very happy to enter quarter final.

HUANG Yu-Chiao / WANG Yi-Ju (TPE) after beating HAMAMOTO Yui / ISHIKAWA Kasumi (JPN) 3-2 in the Women's Doubles Round of 16:

HUANG said: I think it's because our mindset is good. At first we didn't feel that we could win and at the beginning I was unable to activate myself. But afterwards we discussed and changed our tactics then we play more relax. Our tactics has been proved.

How was the tactics changed?

HUANG: We focus more on the first three strokes and improved the quality of serving. At the beginning of the fifth game we were behind but we did our best and did not give up. We stuck to our tactics and won the match in the end."

WANG: I tried to do my best and I did not think whether we can win or not. Their speed is really fast at the beginning, I feel we couldn't do anything in the first two games. Later we did better on receiving the serve and the result is good.

WANG: We never played with them before. And for me and my partner HUANG, we did not play the double match often. This Open Match gives us the chance.