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HONG KONG SQUASH OPEN 2007

二〇〇七國泰航空香港壁球公開賽

Qualifying Round One: Max brightens hosts' day



A day which started out with home interest in 23 out of 25 matches ended with just five Hong Kong players making it through to today's qualifying finals.

Star of the show was Max Lee, HK's former junior champion who is now, aged 19, number four in the senior ranks. In front of a packed audience he took the game to

Sherif Kamel, taking two close opening games to set up an upset, and although the Egyptian pulled a game back the youngster held his nerve in the fourth, sealing the win on his fifth match ball.

On the women's side Christina Mak, Joey Chan, Chiu Ka Kei and Leung Shin Nga will join Lee in the qualifying finals, but there was disappointment for HK number one Wong Wai Hang, who went down in straight games to Germany's Simon Rosner.



The only other seeding upset on a day of comparatively straightforward matches was Jesse Engelbrecht's defeat of Christopher Gordon. Engelbrecht, who recently changed from Zimbabwe to South African loyalty, was the 17th ranked player in the list of qualifiers and the one the top 16 all wanted to avoid, and he duly completed a 3/1 win of increasing authority over the American. "It was a bit frustrating to be at number 17 in the list. There were a few players I wanted to avoid and a few I fancied getting, but whoever drew me was always going to be disappointed with the others all being locals," said Jesse.



Another South African was involved in the day's most bizarre scoreline – Adel Weir winning 9/0, 9/0, 8/10, 9/1 – "I went on a bit of a panic in the third," she explained.



Men's Qualifying Finals:

- 13.30 Omar Abdel Aziz (Egy) v Steve Finitis (Aus)
- 13.30 Jan Koukal (Cze) v Mark Krajcsak (Hun)
- 14.15 Saurav Ghosal (Ind) v Jesse Engelbrecht (Rsa)
- 14.15 Ali Anwar Reda (Egy) v Max Lee (Hkg)
- 15.00 Aaron Frankcomb (Aus) v Bradley Hindle (Aus)
- 15.00 Ritwik Bhattacharya (Ind) v Chris Simpson (Eng)
- 15.45 Simon Rosner (Ger) v Chris Ryder (Eng)
- 15.45 Adil Maqbool (Pak) v Dylan Bennett (Ned)

Women's Qualifying Finals:

- 13.30 Louise Crome (Nzl) v Park Eun-Ok (Kor)
- 13.30 Christina Mak (Hkg) v Adel Weir (Rsa)
- 14.15 Line Hansen (Den) v Suzie Pierrepont (Eng)
- 14.15 Amelia Pittock (Aus) v Chiu Ka Kei (Hkg)
- 15.00 Peta Hughes (Aus) v Joey Chan (Hkg)
- 15.00 Sarah Kippax (Eng) v Joshna Chinappa (Ind)
- 15.45 Tenille Swartz (Rsa) v Aisling Blake (Irl)
- 15.45 Manuela Manetta (Ita) v Leung Shin-nga (Hkg)



A shocker for the World Champ



Cameron's secret is out ???