

United Cup

Thursday, 26 December 2024
Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Team Spain

Captain Jose Antonio

Sanchez de Luna

Pablo Carreno Busta

Carlos Taberner

Sergio Martos Gornes

Jessica Bouzas Maneiro

Marina Bassols Ribera

Yvonne Cavalle-Reimers

Press Conference

THE MODERATOR: Welcome to Perth. How are all of your off-seasons and are you ready to kick off the new year?

PABLO CARRENO BUSTA: Well, we arrive three days ago. The pre-season was short. We finish the season late, and we start very, very soon.

But we are happy to be here again in Perth. It's my second time here. Is a pleasure to play the United Cup representing Spain for start the season.

I think that we have a nice team. I will try to do our best to give some show and we'll see.

THE MODERATOR: How well do you all know each other off the court?

JESSICA BOUZAS MANEIRO: I mean, I think we're a good team. I know some people, the girls most. But yeah, I'm happy to be here with this team because we're since two days ago together. It's a good relations.

Yeah, I think we will do it our best and we will enjoy it for sure.

THE MODERATOR: Your first matchup will be against Kazakhstan. What can you expect from those opponents?

PABLO CARRENO BUSTA: Well, I start tomorrow, so I start answering.

I know Shevchenko is a good player. I play against him



last year at the end of the season. It was a good match for me. But, it's a new season. Everybody has a lot of energy and wants to start the season as the best way.

I don't know. I know that probably I need to get some rhythm because at the end of last year I didn't play a lot of matches. Is the best place to do it here.

We'll try to do a good game and to give the first point for Spain.

JESSICA BOUZAS MANEIRO: For me is a tough match. Rybakina is amazing player, top-10 player. Is opportunity for me playing with these girls. I will try to give my 100%. I know that I will do it.

Of course, to enjoy the match and just try to improve every day. So yeah, I think it's tough match, but we will try it and we'll see.

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

Q. Jessica, last year you started the year playing 125K quallies. Now you start this year playing No. 1 Spain United Cup. It must be nice.

JESSICA BOUZAS MANEIRO: It is. I was two years ago here with Spain in Sydney. I was playing United Cup, I was the 3 in the team. Of course, just to know that I improve, how I did it the last year, it's a good motivation to start it.

Of course, I have to play more matches, to live more experience like this. Yeah, for me it's like a privilege to be the No. 1 here in the United Cup with Spain.

Q. Pablo, last year coming back from a long injury. How do you think a tournament like the United Cup is going to help you physically to start the year well?

PABLO CARRENO BUSTA: Yes, of course I think that physically I'm 100% again after a long injury. At the end of the last year I couldn't play giving my best physically. So now I need just to play more matches, get the rhythm, get the confidence, is more important.

I think United Cup give me the opportunity to play two matches, and we hope more. It's important to play these matches at 100%, enjoying the moment. Of course, take advantage of this opportunity.

Q. One of those matches is Stefanos. You played



him three times before, three wins. The last time was two, three years ago. What can you take from those experiences?

PABLO CARRENO BUSTA: Well, for him will be his first match of the season. Is always difficult to play the first match. For me will be the second one because I play tomorrow against Shevchenko. Maybe this is an advantage for me. So I will try to get this opportunity to beat him.

Q. What are you looking forward to taking from the week in Perth, from the experience?

YVONNE CAVALLE-REIMERS: Well, for me, it's my first time here. I feel amazing to live this experience with such a good team.

I think we are a really good team because we know a little bit each other out of the court. We have a lot of fun. I think we will cheer for each other a lot. This going to be amazing.

MARINA BASSOLS RIBERA: Yeah, what can I say that she didn't said? It's a privilege. So happy to be with them, with the team. All so kind.

Yeah, I will do my best, my 100% to the team. Yeah, that's it.

Q. The same for Carlos, Sergio?

SERGIO MARTOS GORNES: For me it's the first time represent Spain. It's a dream for me to live this experience with all of them.

So yeah, I'm going to help as much as I can. I am a doubles player. If they need me for doubles, I will be ready. I know Carlos and also Pablo are amazing players.

I'm sure that we going to do our 100%. I'm really happy and I really know that we going to do our best. We'll see what we can do. Yeah, really happy to be here.

CARLOS TABERNER: Yeah, for me, it's my first experience with wearing the Spanish flag, Spanish T-shirt. First of all, I'm very happy to be here representing Spain. Also very happy with the team we have. I think we have amazing team. Also we have amazing persons.

I think we are making good preparation. All we can help outside the court is try to cheer the No. 1 players a lot and try to do our best.

Q. What do you expect to give to the team and also take from them this week?

CAPTAIN JOSE ANTONIO SANCHEZ de LUNA: So for me, is a big experience to be. I will try to enjoy, to see these players play matches. I'm here like coach of Pablo. For me is a little bit easy to be here in his match.

With Jessi or all another players, I will try to do to them my experience to think that we can do good job here. So we will see.

Q. You'll be making the decisions for the doubles?

CAPTAIN JOSE ANTONIO SANCHEZ de LUNA: We will see. After singles, we will see. Top secret (smiling).

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