

United Cup

Saturday, 28 December 2024

Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Team China

Captain Wu Di

Zhang Shuai

Zhang Zhizhen

Gao Xinyu

Press Conference

China - 3

Brazil - 0

THE MODERATOR: Captain, very strong performance by the team today. How do you reflect on the three wins?

CAPTAIN WU DI: Yeah, today everyone is working hard. We are fight from the first point to at the end. Qinwen didn't come. We had the girls player can play in the singles and the mixed. Get a lot of pressure.

Also we happy she can win these high-level matches. Also for sure men's, Zhizhen, he got a lot good experience from last year. This year he get more freedom, confidence. Also have many fans coming, so he get more feeling the home.

Also we win the two singles, and the mixed can giving more chance to relax. We happy to win this tournament.

THE MODERATOR: Questions.

Q. How are you feeling?

GAO XINYU: Right now feel better. Just finish the match, I feel exhausting. Right now I feel better.

Q. Ready to go again in a few days?

GAO XINYU: Not yet (smiling).

Q. It was only a few months ago that you played fourth longest match in WTA history. What were you thinking when you got into this battle today? Were you thinking of that match or...

GAO XINYU: I played final set, yeah, I was thinking of that match in China Open.



Q. What about it?

GAO XINYU: Actually after China Open, I play a lot matches, and I lost in final set. Have a lot of opportunity, but I didn't catch it.

So today final set again, I was to thinking like, Again. It's like, Please, let me win one time, at least.

Q. Zhizhen, after that match, did that give you the freedom to go out there and play loose?

ZHANG ZHIZHEN: There is no freedom. This is full of the pressure (smiling).

I don't know how last year Qinwen took the pressure. For me, be honest, we didn't expect the first singles we can win. Sorry about that (laughter). This is big chance and small chance. So it was really surprise and we was super happy that her win the match. Even we are in the gym to do the warm-up, even losing the first set.

In the end, when she win the match, right away the pressure is coming to me. C'mon, what is chance now (smiling)? I was kind of nervous before the match. Also it's first match to play of the year. Still '24, but it's next season, yeah.

I just really focus to play the match because I cannot think too much outside of the court. It's going to destroy my mind and destroy my match. I just really focus on the match.

Q. In the mixed doubles, there was a moment 5-4 in the second set where you had a long conversation at the changeover. Do you remember?

ZHANG ZHIZHEN: First set or second set?

Q. Second set. Between Wu Di and you.

CAPTAIN WU DI: We always like this.

Q. What were the tactics?

ZHANG ZHIZHEN: I can't remember what he said. Nothing important, so I forget already.

Maybe Zhang Shuai I remember. What do you say, captain?

CAPTAIN WU DI: Talk about the return so we can make



more chance to come to the net and we can play more aggressive. Also we talk easy to finish to the net.

ZHANG ZHIZHEN: I get it. Now I remember, yes.

Q. Zhang Shuai, how did you feel on court first match?

ZHANG SHUAI: That's perfect. Always feeling good after winning. Also how surprise both girl today play amazing match. Both girl give everything. So I think when everybody play for the country, always fight until the last second. I mean, they gave everything.

Still third set 3-All, 4-All. They try more and more and more. Everybody cry after the match. I mean, during the match.

How stronger Chinese people, Chinese tennis player, Chinese tennis team, everybody working so hard when we was young. Even captain, he's how good. He didn't show yet. Maybe next year.

CAPTAIN WU DI: Muscle (smiling).

ZHANG SHUAI: Next year maybe one more match.

CAPTAIN WU DI: Good idea (smiling).

ZHANG SHUAI: For sure China we won because he's so good. Our team so strong, yeah. He can give us a lot, a lot new things because normally we always talking with our coach. Now we can learn a lot new things, yeah, everybody.

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