

Day 5 - 24.07.09

Vergeer seals ninth British Open title

World No 1 Esther Vergeer of the Netherlands won her ninth successive women's singles title at the 20th British Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships yesterday, beating her compatriot and second seed Korie Homan 6-2, 7-6(5) in the final for the third successive year at the City of Nottingham Tennis Centre.

Twenty eight-year-old Vergeer opened up a 4-1 lead before taking the first set on her first set point and then went 3-1 up in the second set before Homan came back to level the set at 3-3 just before torrential rain took the players off court.

A little more than an hour later play resumed and at 5-4 ahead Homan came within two points of taking a set off Vergeer for the first time this season. Top seed Vergeer won the next two games before Homan forced a tie-break and went 4-1 ahead. However, the world No 2 was unable to build on that lead and Vergeer bounced back to wrap up victory on her first match point, extending her winning streak to 364 matches

The top two seeds also contest Saturday's men's and quad singles finals, with Britain's world No 1 Peter Norfolk bidding for his fifth British Open quad title in seven years after beating Dorrie Timmermans 6-4, 7-5. Norfolk plays his big rival and world No 2 David Wagner of the United States in the final.

World No 1 Shingo Kunieda of Japan bids for his third men's singles title after a comfortable 6-2, 6-0 win over Sweden's Stefan Olsson. Kunieda plays French world No 2 Stephane Houdet in the final.