

Bayley and Davies to go for gold!

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Will Bayley and Rob Davies are through to gold medal matches at the Rio Paralympics.

Table tennis star <u>@WillBayleytt</u> erupts with emotion after his semi-final win – his final is tomorrow afternoon $\[\]$ <u>https://t.co/6WZC55rdDO</u>

- C4 Paralympics (@C4Paralympics) September 11, 2016

Bayley today beat Spain's Jordi Morales in Class 7, while Davies overcame Endre Major of Hungary in Class 1, both in four sets.

London 2012 silver medallist Bayley will face Brazil's Israel Pereira Stroh – who beat him 3-1 in his first match of the tournament in the group stage – at 2.45pm UK time on Monday.

Bayley said: "He was playing so well when he was playing me – I'm not surprised he's got to the final but I'm excited about playing him again.

"It is going to be a different final to London – less pressure on me – but I'm just looking forward to it. I've played a final before; I've got the experience now so I can't wait and it is a great opportunity for me. I've worked very hard to get here.

"I think we might be a bit outnumbered but the Brazilian crowd is fantastic and I can't wait to play in front of it – even if they are cheering against me I have massive respect for the Brazilian people and the way they have supported their players – it's been fantastic. Stroh has played superbly and beaten a lot of good players. I believe I can beat him but we'll see."

Davies' final is at 3.45pm on Tuesday against Joo Young Dae of South Korea.

"I've got to give him credit for giving me a good battle and it puts me in good stead for the final," said the Welshman. "In the fourth set I think my experience got me through – all the performance team and the psychologist have been working with me a lot and it has really paid off particularly these last few matches.

"I feel more confident mentally and a lot more prepared to battle it out and be strong in the points where I need to be."

Sue Gilroy was beaten in her semi final in Women's Class 4 and will now face Nada Matic of Serbia in the bronze medal match at 3.45pm on Monday.

"I felt so good going in to the match and I'm bitterly disappointed with how I played," said Gilroy. "She was tempting me in and I just wasn't spinning the ball enough.

"We had some good rallies but it just wasn't enough today unfortunately. Matic is a really good player so I've just got to go out there tomorrow and give it everything."

There were quarter-final defeats today for Kim Daybell and Sara Head.

Results

MS10

Quarter-final

Lian Hao (CHN) bt Kim Daybell 3-1 (13-11, 5-11, 11-9, 11-8)

WS3

Quarter-final

Li Qian (CHN) bt Sara Head 3-0 (11-7, 14-12, 11-3)

MS7

Semi-final

Will Bayley bt Jordi Morales (ESP) 3-1 (11-13, 11-1, 11-3, 15-13)

WS4

Semi-final

Borislava Peric-Rankovic (SRB) bt Sue Gilroy 3-0 (13-11, 11-4, 11-5)

MS1

Semi-final

Rob Davies bt Endre Major (HUN) 3-1 (11-5, 11-7, 8-11, 14-12)

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