

# Water quality concern moves to pools

REUTERS

RIO DE JANEIRO — Concerns over water quality at the Olympics have been swirling for months for sailors and rowers, but this week they moved into swimming pools, in the latest embarrassment for Games organizers.

Untreated sewage, the presence of dangerous bacteria, and garbage floating in Rio's Guanabara Bay and lagoon waters have long unsettled many water-sport competitors at the Games.

But few expected the diving pool at the Maria Lenk aquatic center to turn a mysterious, translucent green on Wednesday.

World swimming governing body FINA said the color was the result of a failure by Games organizers to sufficiently treat the water, after tanks at the pools had run out of pool chemicals.

The resulting abnormal pH levels in the diving and water polo pool next door would be quickly remedied, organizers said, adding that the water posed no health risk.

Their solution — adding more chlorine, a chemical that kills algae and helps keep pool waters blue — kept the complaints rolling in.

After the U.S. men's water polo team beat France on Wednesday, U.S. captain Tony Azevedo emerged from the pool red-eyed, bemoaning the pool water that was stinging players' eyes.

"What's ridiculous is not the green water. I've played in plenty of pools with green water. The problem is they put way too much chlorine in," Azevedo told reporters. "I could barely open my eyes for the final quarter."

Azevedo added: "This is the Olympic Games and they are putting so much chlorine in the water that people can't see. You can't have that."

According to water treatment experts, such problems are easily avoidable with proper maintenance by pool-keepers.



## Murray reaches quarterfinals

RIO DE JANEIRO — Defending champion Andy Murray survived a scare to reach the quarter-finals of the men's Olympic tennis tournament with a three-set victory over Fabio Fognini on Thursday.

Murray won 6-1 2-6 6-3 after rallying from a 3-0 third-set deficit against the Italian, who won eight straight games before the Briton regained control.

Spain's Rafa Nadal also booked his spot in the last eight with a 7-6(5) 6-3 win over Frenchman Gilles Simon.

The Olympic tennis tournament has been marked by some major upsets in the opening rounds and both Murray and Nadal were tested on Thursday, in gusty conditions after rain delays had cancelled play on Wednesday.

The momentum shifts in Murray's match were striking. The Italian mounted an aggressive counter-attack after Murray won the first set easily, repeatedly wrong-footing the Briton on the baseline, or drawing him in with drop shots. But Murray turned it around to win the last six games.

"It wasn't pretty, but I won," he told reporters. "The wind was swirling everywhere, so it was just really tough conditions for us to play well."

Murray, who now faces Steve Johnson of the United States, is favourite to clinch a second straight gold medal following the first-round exit of world number one Novak Djokovic to Argentina's Juan Martin Del Potro.

## U.S. men relish marathon Italy match

United States gold-medal hopes Nicholas Lucena and Phil Dalhausser relished Thursday's marathon victory against Italy's Paolo Nicolai and Daniele Lupo, a performance they said put them in good stead for the knockout rounds in men's volleyball.

With the sun setting over a windy Copacabana beach, the U.S. won 21-13, 17-21, 24-22 after both teams successfully defended match points in a third set that usually only goes to 15.

## Medals tally

Current top 20 by total medals won - After Day 5

COUNTRY				TOTAL
United States	11	11	10	32
China	10	5	8	23
Japan	6	1	11	18
Russia	4	7	4	15
Australia	5	2	5	12
Great Britain	3	3	6	12
Italy	3	6	2	11
Korea	4	2	3	9
Hungary	5	1	1	7
Kazakhstan	2	2	3	7
France	2	3	1	6
Canada	0	1	5	6
Thailand	2	1	1	4
Germany	1	2	1	4
Netherlands	1	1	2	4
DPR Korea	0	2	2	4
Sweden	1	2	0	3
Belgium	1	1	1	3
Taiwan	1	0	2	3
Ukraine	0	2	1	3

Note: Some countries tied in 20th position may be excluded from the table.  
Source: Infostrada  
Staff, 11/08/2016

REUTERS

"It was a good test. They are one of the top five teams in the world, they're the future of this sport," Lucena said.

Nicolai and Lupo are 28 and 25 respectively, while veterans Dalhausser and Lucena are both 36.

Lucena and Dalhausser now move into the last 16. Their opponents will be decided by matches later on Thursday.

## Britain win gold in men's team sprint

Britain won the men's track cycling team sprint gold for the third consecutive Olympics after defeating New Zealand on Thursday, with Callum Skinner anchoring them

# Murphy completes US backstroke double

REUTERS

RIO DE JANEIRO — Ryan Murphy extended a U.S. winning streak and completed a backstroke double on Thursday night, adding the Olympic men's 200 meters gold to the 100 title he won earlier in the week.

The U.S. men have now won the event for six successive Olympics dating back to Atlanta in 1996.

Tyler Clary, the gold medallist at London 2012, was unable to defend his title after failing to be selected at the U.S. trials.

Mitch Larkin of Australia won the silver and Russian Evgeny Rylov took the bronze.

In the 50-meter men's freestyle heats, Olympic champion Florent Manaudou qualified fastest for Friday's final.

In a fast and furious burst of whitewater, France's Manaudou clocked 21.32 seconds, narrowly edging out Ukraine's Andrii Govorov and Anthony Ervin of the United States, who swam in the second semifinal and finished in a dead heat in 21.46 seconds.

Nathan Adrian of the United States, Benjamin Proud of Britain, Bruno Fratus of Brazil, Simonas Bilis of Lithuania and Brad Tandy of South Africa rounded out the qualifiers.

Australia's Cameron McEvoy, who had qualified for the Games with the second fastest time in the world this year with a time of 21.44 seconds at the Australian championships, was 11th fastest in 21.89 seconds.

Earlier, Japan's Rie Kaneto won the Olympic gold medal in the women's 200-meter breaststroke, edging out controversial Russian Yulia Efimova who won her second silver of the Games.

Shi Jinglin of China took the bronze.

In the 800-meter women's free-style heats, Katie Ledecky put another golden, and late, night behind her and focused on winning a fourth title at the Rio Games in her favorite event.

The 19-year-old did not push too hard in the heats after anchoring the U.S. to victory in the 4x200m freestyle relay late on Wednesday, but still set an Olympic record time of eight minutes 12.86 seconds.

Her closest rival, Hungary's Boglarka Kapas, was nearly seven seconds slower in 8:19.43 with Britain's Jazz Carlin third in 8:19.67.

"(Coach) Bruce (Gemmell) just told me to think about my rhythm the first 200 and then he didn't give any other instructions," said the world record holder and defending champion who has become unbeatable at the distance.

"Well, he told me not to take a hard stroke so I tried not to."



STEFAN WERMUTH | REUTERS

Ryan Murphy of the United States competes in the 200-meter backstroke final Thursday night at Olympic Aquatics Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

# Ortiz returns to lineup after injury scare

WIRE SERVICE REPORTS

BOSTON — Boston Red Sox slugger David Ortiz was listed as a starter in the lineup for Thursday night's game against the New York Yankees one night after fouling a 99-mph fastball from Delin Betances off the mid-point of his right shin.

X-rays and a fluoroscan taken following the game were negative.

"My heart sunk a little bit when I saw it, but fortunately, I just saw him back there," Red Sox president of baseball operations Dave Dombrowski told redsox.com. "He's doing much better. It's not broken. He looks like he's moving around pretty good right now, considering how he was. Before, we had to carry him off, basically, but he's now walking. He's standing around on his own. It hit off him solid, but he's doing much better."

The team was concerned Ortiz may have suffered a

significant injury as he was in a lot of pain and had to be helped back to the dugout by manager John Farrell and a member of the training staff.

The Red Sox did lose a starter for Thursday night's game, however, as right fielder Mookie Betts was sidelined due to right-calf tightness. He is listed as day-to-day.

The team also announced that knuckleball pitcher Steven Wright would miss Thursday night's start due to right shoulder inflammation.

On Thursday, the Red Sox activated righthander Sean O'Sullivan from the 15-day disabled list. He was 2-0 with a 6.75 ERA for Boston before suffering from left knee patellar tendinitis.

The team also recalled lefthander Roenis Elias from Triple-A Pawtucket and sent outfielder Bryce Brentz back to Pawtucket.

Elias has compiled an 8-4 record and 3.72 ERA with Pawtucket.

Brentz hit .279 with three doubles and a home run in 25 games for the Red Sox.

# 5-run 7th lifts Yanks by Sox

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

BOSTON — Starlin Castro's two-run double in the seventh inning capped a five-run frame for the New York Yankees in a 9-4 win over the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday night at Fenway Park.

Didi Gregorius and Gary Sanchez each slugged solo home runs while Austin Romine, Jacoby Ellsbury and Chase Headley each added RBIs for the Yankees (57-56), who avoided falling below .500 for the first time since July 17.

Alex Rodriguez was greeted with boos from the Fenway fans when he entered as a pinch-hitter for Aaron Hicks with two on and nobody out in the seventh, but flied out to right field.

The 41-year-old Rodriguez, who will play his final game with the Yankees on Friday in New York before retiring, is scheduled to start Thursday's series finale.

Yankees starter Nathan Eovaldi departed with right elbow discomfort prior to the top of the second inning after

throwing only 12 pitches in the first. The hard-throwing right-hander was sent back to New York for further evaluation.

It was the shortest outing of Eovaldi's career, tossing one fewer pitch than he did in a Sept. 12, 2011, relief appearance with the Los Angeles Dodgers during his rookie season.

Tyler Clippard (1-0), the Yankees' sixth of eight pitchers, earned the win with a scoreless inning of relief. Delin Betances pitched the ninth.

Mookie Betts, Andrew Benintendi and Dustin Pedroia each drove in a run for the Red Sox (61-51).

Drew Pomeranz fell short in his fifth attempt to notch his first win with the Red Sox, allowing Gregorius' 14th homer of the year and five more hits with a walk and five strikeouts in 5 1/3 innings.

The first-time All-Star lefthander is 0-2 with three no-decisions and a 5.26 ERA after allowing 15 runs over 25 2/3 innings since being acquired in a July 14 trade from San Diego.

Fernando Abad (1-6), another Boston trade-deadline acquisition, took the loss after

surrendering Castro's double.

The Red Sox scored twice in the sixth on Pedroia's single and Xander Bogaerts' ground-out to build a 4-1 lead, but the Yankees answered with their big fifth.

Romine and Ellsbury slapped RBI singles to bring New York within a run and Headley tied it with his single. Sanchez slugged his first career homer to straightaway center in the eighth and both Romine and Rob Refsnyder scored on wild pitches to pad the lead.

Betts left the game before the top of the eighth with right calf tightness and was replaced by Brock Holt in right field.

David Ortiz fouled a ball off his right knee in the ninth inning and fell to the ground in pain before being helped off the field. Bryce Brentz pinch-hit for Ortiz.

Chasen Shreve relieved Eovaldi and posted a scoreless second, but surrendered a run on Betts' third-inning ground-out.

Blake Parker came on after Shreve, but suffered a similar fate on Benintendi's bases-loaded groundout in the fourth.

to victory in the first event of the track programme.

Skinner, Jason Kenny and Philip Hindes set the third Olympic record of the day to beat the world champions by the narrowest of margins.

Britain clocked 42.440 for the three laps of the 250-meter circuit, 0.102 seconds quicker than New Zealand who were bidding for their first Olympic gold in the discipline.

Despite reports of the track being slow beforehand, Britain set an Olympic record in the qualifying round, New Zealand, anchored by Eddie Dawkins went even quicker in round one and Britain went faster still in the final.

New Zealand led early in the race but Britain surged back.

France beat Australia to win the bronze medal.

## Fans miss Spain-Nigeria start due to suspicious backpack

Fans missed the start of the men's Olympic basketball contest between Nigeria and Spain on Thursday after an unattended backpack was found in the arena, triggering a security alert and a controlled detonation of the bag.

Television images showed the players, including Spanish NBA star Pau Gasol, starting play against the backdrop of tiers of empty seats after security held back crowds from entering the arena.

The backpack was carried away by a robot and detonated, a spokesman for Rio 2016 confirmed. Detonating unattended bags has been common this Games amid concerns over security at South America's first Olympics.

A security agent said the backpack was discovered after the Brazil-Croatia game.

A tablet computer, some socks and a jacket were found inside the backpack following the detonation. The public were allowed into the arena immediately afterwards, a spokesman said.

# Medals

Continued from Page B5

A vocal critic of Russia's exclusion, which she says punishes clean athletes like herself who have never failed a doping test, Isinbayeva has said any medals won in Rio will be illegitimate.

"Let all these foreign pseudo-clean sportspeople sigh with relief and win their pseudo-gold medals in our absence," she wrote on Instagram after CAS upheld the Russian team's ban in July. "They have always feared (our) strength."

In the men's events, Russian hopes were resting on hurdler Shubenkov, who pulled off a shocking win at the world championships in Beijing last year with a top-20 time of 12.98 seconds.

"As an athlete you ... always want to compete against the best," U.S. rival Devon Allen told reporters. "The defending world champion is Russian so, as a competitor, it is disappointing because obviously I want to compete against him."

"But on the other side, I don't make the rules. I just show up and compete."