

Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Luxury property price rise by 50 percent on Majorca: See Page Three



Defeat in Majorca, Gold Medal in Rio

Giles Scott, who has carried the bulk of his country's medal hopes since the legendary Ben Ainslie retired from Olympic sailing, secured the Finn gold in the medal race early yesterday.

The 29-year-old Huntingdon sailor had been forced to bide his time for his turn on the world's biggest stage, such was the dominance of Sir Ben Ainslie in the Finn class.

But with the retirement of the four-time gold medallist, it was finally the moment for Scott to step into the Olympic spotlight.

Scott has been the dominant figure in the sport for three years, until a broken rudder fitting in a race in Majorca this year meant he had to settle for second place.

Rajoy gets nod for talks on pact with Ciudadanos

SPAIN'S conservative People's Party (PP) mandated its leader yesterday to hold talks on forming a pact with a rival party, though he still faces a struggle to end an eight-month political stalemate.

PP leaders met to discuss the offer from centrist party Ciudadanos to consider backing Mariano Rajoy for a second term as prime minister, provided the PP agreed to a six-point package of political reforms.

"Spain needs a government right now and not new elections," Rajoy told reporters after being given free rein to hold further talks with Ciudadanos. "What Spain needs now is an agreement to form a government." The country has been in political limbo since two inconclusive national elections in December and June delivered the most fractured parliaments in four decades.

Subsequent attempts by political parties to reach agreement on

a government have so far failed.

A PP/Ciudadanos alliance would mark the biggest step yet in ending the stalemate. But significant hurdles remain as the two parties would still be short of a majority in parliament, meaning they would also need the backing of the opposition Socialists, who Rajoy yesterday urged to compromise.

"Ciudadanos has taken a step forward, the Socialist party has not taken a single one," Rajoy -- acting prime minister since De-

cember - said. The Socialists have so far steadfastly refused to back Rajoy. Rajoy did not clarify his party's position on Ciudadanos' reform plan, which aims to tackle corruption and change Spain's voting system.

He simply said he had got support for more talks with Ciudadanos in order to win their backing in a parliamentary vote to invest him as prime minister.

The PP won the most votes in both elections while Ciudadanos came fourth.

Thank you and goodnight from Met Office

London.—BBC weather forecasts, closely watched by millions in Britain, will be provided from next year by a private company, replacing the Met Office after 94 years.

The publicly-funded Corporation said yesterday that London-based MétéoGroup would take over from next Spring and save the BBC millions of pounds over the next few years.

The seven-year deal would give users a more personalised website and more information both on air and on the BBC weather app, it added. "This decision will mean we can further modernise our weather forecasting, making the most of new technology and science to bring our audiences an even better service," BBC Weather procurement project director Nigel Charters said.