

Round up of Sports News for January 6th, 2014



Baseball

Industriales assured the top qualifying stage in baseball with 28 and 16, leaving on the field 10-6 to Las Tunas thanks to Thomas Yasmany's decisive homer with loaded bases in the 9th entry and excellent work of Michel Martinez, who filed his 3rd victory while Alejandro Meneses took the loss.

Follow the list Matanzas (28-17), Villa Clara (26-17), Isla de la Juventud (27-18), Pinar del Río (26-18), Holguin (25-20), Santiago de Cuba (24-21) and Artemisa (24-21).

This Monday will revive the suspended matches in the preliminary phase between Villa Clara and Mayabeque and on Tuesday, the current monarchs will run into Pinar del Rio and Industriales will collide with Granma.

Football

Five coaches of the famous Dutch *Feyenoord Club* began a soccer clinic to raise the local competitive level and scouting this Monday in Havana, to coincide with the official visit to Cuba of foreign minister of that European country, Frans

Timmermans.

The 5 technicians from *Feyenoord Academy* (of Rotterdam), the best Dutch Soccer Academy in 2010, co-sponsored by Mr. Henni Huigen, Director General of *Nirint shipping* company said they would seek the Cuban Messi this week as the Island shows much talent, but added that though the project involves only young players this time, it does not rule out to be extended to the national team in the future.

The clinic, which will run until next Friday, is the first offering to the Island of Dutch football coaches, whose academy has subsidiaries in Hungary, Ghana and Brazil.

However, all the fans of this sport are mourning by the passing of Portuguese football legend Eusébio da Silva Ferreira, former *Benfica* player, who died on Sunday at age 71 in Lisbon.

Chess

Cuban GM Leinier Dominguez will begin his season at the Tata Steel Chess Tournament from 11 to 26 next in the Dutch city of Wijk aan Zee.

Dominguez first Latin American chess player, appears among the 10 holders of more than 2700 Elo points was called to intervene in the first major tournament of the year, with XX category of the International Federation of discipline.

Boxing

With great happiness throughout Cuba was welcomed the news that double world champion in boxing Julio Cesar la Cruz, who suffered an assault with a firearm off a recreational center in his city, Camagüey, was released from Manuel Ascunce Domenech hospital, stated to *Granma* newspaper Dr. Leonardo Ramírez Rodríguez, director of the medical institution.

According to the specialist, the champion must only observe the corresponding cures which includes treatment with antibiotics and analgesics, to gradually return to his regular sporting life.

Basketball

The Venezuelan basketball ready forces to meet important commitments at the international level, among which stand out the South American Games in Chile and the South American Championships in this capital, sources of the discipline said today.

According to the Venezuelan Federation of the sport, in conjunction with the national team coach, Néstor García, a shortlist of 37 players was formed.

Tennis

Argentine tennis player Juan Martin Del Potro remained in 5th position in the world ranking of the *Association of Professional Tennis Players*, led by the Spanish Rafael Nadal.

Del Potro, who owns 5255 units, now closely follows the British Andy Murray, who lost over 200 units for not defending his title held in Brisbane, Australia.

Meanwhile, American Serena Williams, world leader among females, cleared the doubts about her quality to defeat the 'top-2' ranking, the Belarus Victoria Azarenka in the final of the Brisbane International; Russian Maria Sharapova holds the 3rd position and Spanish Carla Suarez is 16th.

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