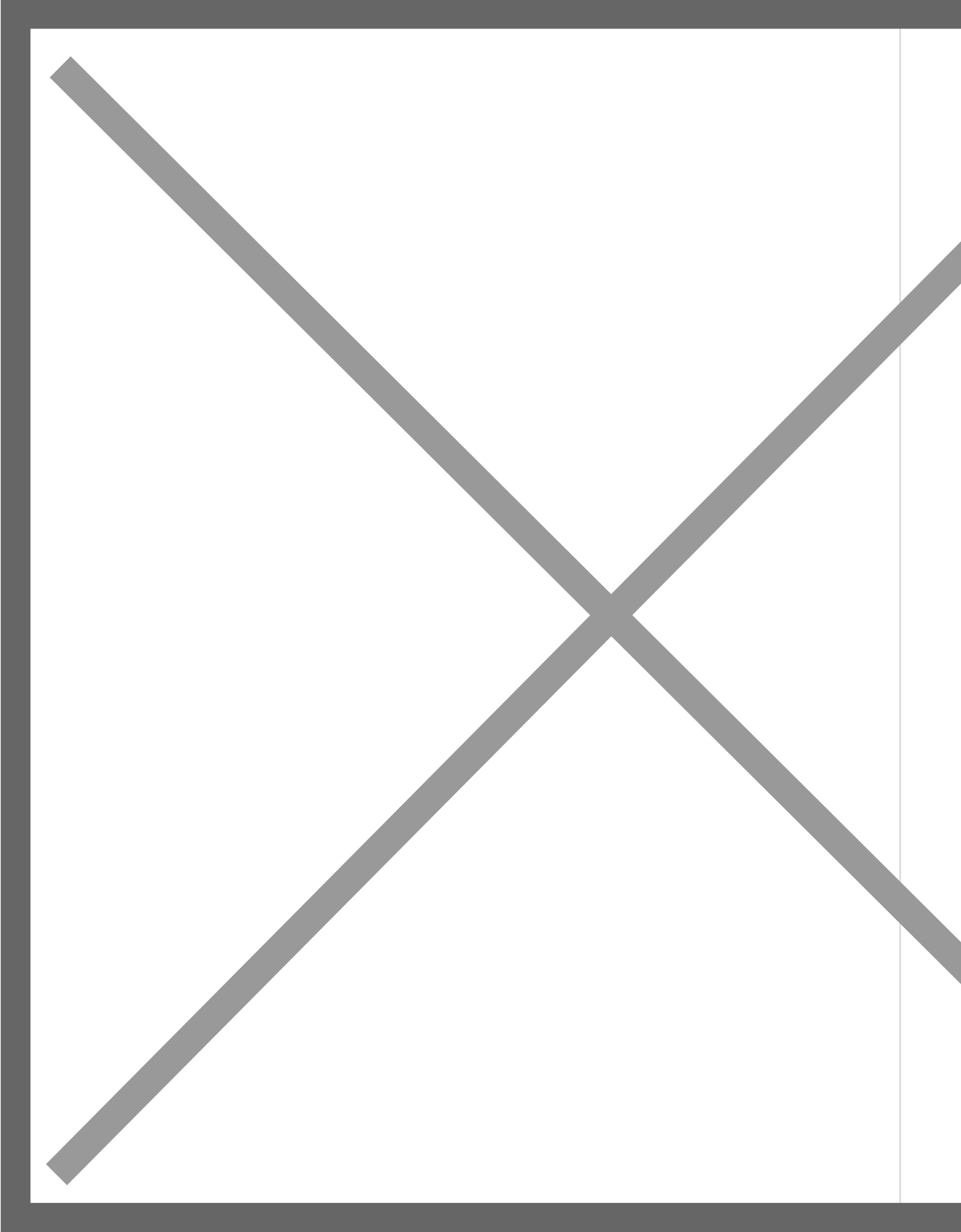


*Cubans continue to be
protagonists in major volleyball
leagues around the world*

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Marlon Yant on the attack with La Lube

Havana, February 20 (RHC) - Cuban volleyball players continue to excel in two of the world's strongest leagues, those of Italy and Brazil.

In a duel with Cuban protagonism, the reigning champion of the Italian Super League, Marlon Yant's Lube Civitanova, beat Robertlandy Simon, Yoandy Leal and Roamy Alonso's Piacenza 3-2.

Yant continued his outstanding play in the second half of the season and scored 14 points, while "El Muro" Simon scored 15, four of them in blocking.

Leal was not at his best on offense and finished with 12 points and a discreet 38 percent efficiency on the attack.

On an individual level, Simon is by far the best Center of the Superliga, considered the NBA of Volleyball, with a coefficient of 0.78, followed by Serbia's Marco Podrascanin 0.66 and Sreco Lisinac 0.63, both from Trentino.

Perugia maintained its unbeaten run in 20 Superliga starts and 33 in all competitions by beating Cisterna, although the Cubans were not decisive. For Cisterna, Cuban José Miguel Gutiérrez scored 12 points.

For Perugia, Jesús Herrera played as a substitute and scored 4 units, Wilfredo León was only in the first two halves and scored 6.

Osniel Mergarejo started in the 2-3 loss of an ailing Milano against Trentino and contributed only two units.

Meanwhile in Brazil, Miguel Angel Lopez has two excellent games after returning from suspension.

This time he contributed 16 points in Sada Cruzeiro's win against the strong Volei Renata and also scored 4 aces to reaffirm himself as the best server in the Brazilian Superliga, a section he already dominated last season.

In another duel, Farma Conde Sao José strengthened its position in the Play Off positions by beating Araguaí 3-0, in a match in which the top scorer for Farma Conde was the Cuban opposite Michael "El Ruso" Sánchez with 20 points.

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