

Las Tunas to qualify for Cuban baseball semifinals



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Havana, July 12 (PL) - The Cuban baseball quarterfinals continue on Wednesday with four games and the expectation of seeing if Las Tunas becomes the first to qualify for the semifinals.

The long day includes the fourth duel between Leñadores and Ciego de Avila, which is 3-0 in favor of the Tunas, absolute leaders of the regular phase of the championship.

Only one more win is needed for the Leñadores Tuneros, who defeated the Avileños 7-4 in 12 innings on Tuesday.

Rodolfo Díaz won for the Tuneros, with a 4.2 innings of work, two hits allowed and no runs, while Yosvani Alarcón (6-3, 2 RBI) was outstanding with his lumber.

In the other game on Tuesday, Camagüey took the lead against Santiago de Cuba with a 4-1 success that featured rookie pitcher Fernando Ramos (4.1 IP, 1H, 5K and 1BB) and outfielder Luis González, author of three hits in four at-bats and three runs batted in.

The Toros will go out this Wednesday in front of their fans in search of a third win that will bring them closer to the semifinals, for which they will use left-hander Dariel Góngora, winner of the first playoff game between the two teams.

In search of the tie, the experienced pitcher from Santiago, Alberto Bisset, who has 10 wins in post-season games, will be used.

Matanzas will also host Artemisa today in a duel that is evenly matched at one win per side.

The series between Industriales and Sancti Spiritus, which will be resumed on Wednesday night, is equally even, after the official retirement of Alexander Malleta, one of the iconic players of the so-called Leones de la capital.

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