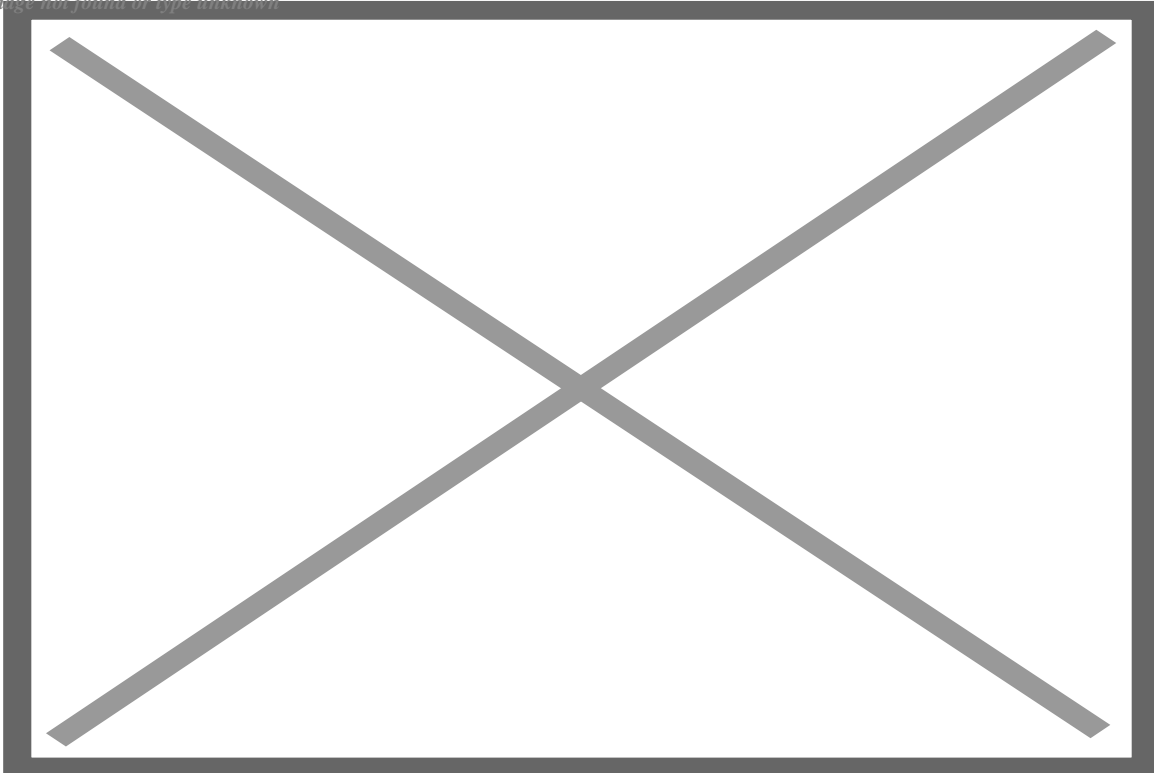


Las Tunas has seventh successive victory in the Baseball Series

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Havana, May 4 (JIT)-- Las Tunas defeated Santiago de Cuba 7-3 this Friday, and secured the particular subseries, signing its seventh consecutive victory, to retain the top of the 63rd National Baseball Series.

At bat for the Leñadores, hosts at the Julio Antonio Mella stadium, their catcher Rafael Viñales stood out, who went 3 for 4 with a home run and two RBIs. Second victory for young Leandro Cañada, despite allowing five hits and three earned runs in just 2.1 innings. This was Rodolfo Díaz's fifth save, in a game with five errors by the indomitable Wasps, which marked his fourth successive defeat.

Pinar del Río remained half a game away from the Leñadores in the standings, with their 5-1 victory against Isla de la Juventud, which had surpassed them in the previous two rounds.

The key hitter for the Vegueros was right fielder Lázaro Benítez, who went 3 for 3, with a double and a home run, valid to bring four of the five runs to the plate. Fourth smile for Randy Martínez, who distributed seven hits in 5.2 innings, supported by five strikeouts.

Ciego de Ávila rose to third position with its double victory against Villa Clara, which made a whopping six errors on the day. First they won 4x1. Jonathan Bridón went 2-for-4 with a home run and a couple of hits. Fourth win for 17-year-old rookie Ediel Ponce.

In the second hour, the Tigers won 3-2. Success for Leonardo Reyes and fifth save for Yan Carlos Díaz.

In other results, Holguín beat Camagüey 4x0, Mayabeque knocked out Cienfuegos 11x1 with an offensive of 17 hits and Granma beat Guantánamo 4x3, with the 14th home run by Alfredo Despaigne, who remained alone as the leader.

Friday night, Industriales beat Artemisa 3-1, with the sixth victory of Andy Vargas, who equaled in that department with Albert Valladares (MAY) and Alberto Pablo Civil (LTU), and decreased his earned run average (2.16), the best of the tournament. In the other game, Matanzas gave Sancti Spíritus a 12x0 knockout.

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