

Curacao knocks out Cuba to remain undefeated

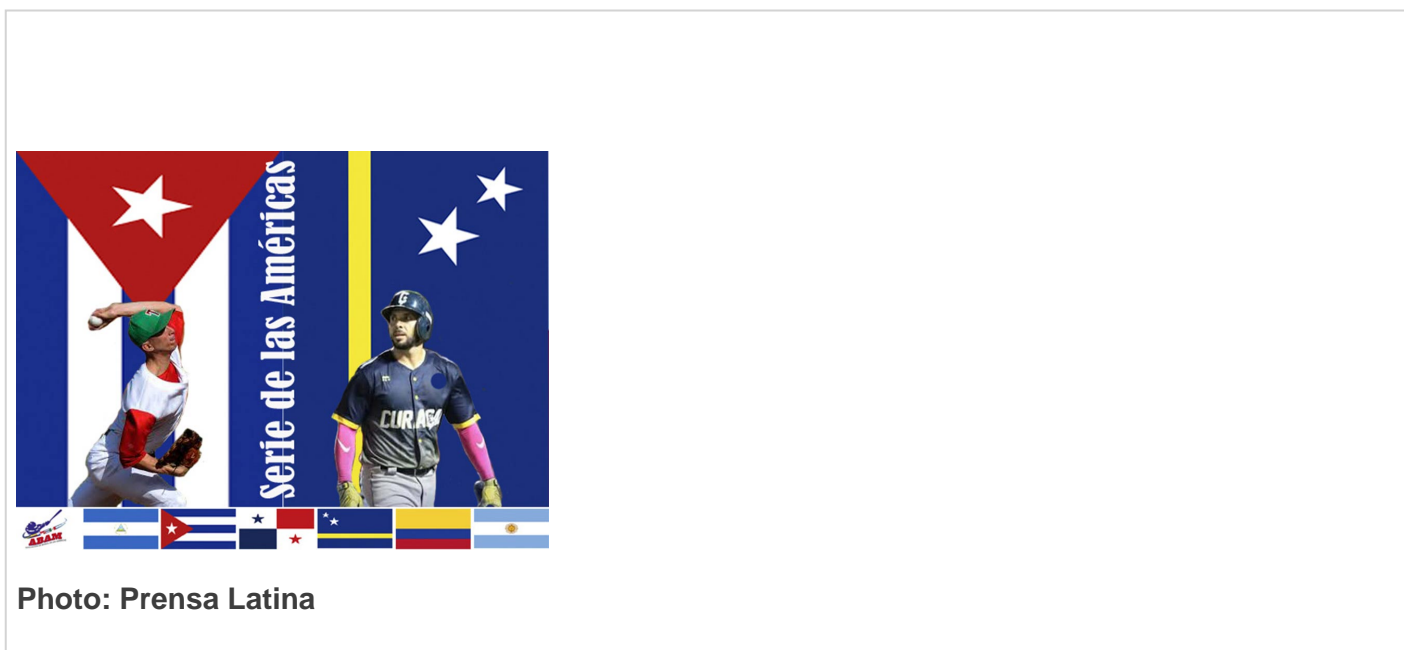


Photo: Prensa Latina

Havana, Jan 27 (RHC) The Curacao Goats knocked out Cuba's Leñadores de Las Tunas on Sunday, 15-2, and maintained their undefeated record in three outings in the Americas Baseball Series in Nicaragua.

Hainley Statia's team did not let themselves be impressed by the axes of the Cuban championship's double title holders and attacked them with an offense of 16 hits, to continue on their way in search of a ticket to the semifinals.

Eight runs in the third chapter, six of them to the account of starter Dariel Góngora and another two to that of Keniel Ferraz, dynamited the Cuban hopes and made it clear that, at least on this night, the baseball gods were sitting on the third base bench.

Curacao's team scored seven hits in that inning, among them a triple by Ray-Patrick Didder, a double by Jeremy Profar that brought two runners home and a Raysheandall Michel hit that drove in another.

Seven runs in the fourth inning on the scores of Eliander Bravo and Rodolfo Díaz put a knockout score on the board, before a team that was already totally diminished.

In that offensive fiesta, Profar hit another double that pushed in a run and Michel mimicked him to clean up the packed pads.

The 35-year-old pitcher, Juan Carlos Sulbarán, who since 2009 has worked several times against Cuban teams, scored the victory by walking a five-pitch route, where he accepted two dirty runs, driven in by Yunieski Larduet's single.

After this result, the tournament standings show Curaçao at the top with three hits without setbacks, followed by Panama and Nicaragua (2-1), Cuba and Argentina (1-2), and Colombia (0-3).

The Cuba-Colombia and Argentina-Curacao duels are scheduled for today, at the 'Soberanía' National Stadium in Managua, and the Panama-Nicaragua match at the 'Roberto Clemente' Stadium in Masaya (Source: Prensa Latina).

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