

# *Sports News Roundup October 07*

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## **Baseball**

The *55th Cuban Baseball Classic* closes the 2nd preliminary 3rd part with 12 possible teams to qualify for the 2nd round, but Santiago de Cuba, Artemisa and Mayabeque and Camagüey.

The current champions Ciego de Avila held the lead after dividing in the double program facing Cienfuegos, to give in the 1st game 7x6 and being imposed on the 2nd by 9x2.

Meanwhile, Pinar del Rio and Industriales, 2nd and 3rd places in the Table, fell in their respective duels. Los Vegueros from Pinar 2x1 against Camagüey to stop its former 6 winning streak, while Los Azules from the Capital to Sancti Spiritus by 5x2, but another team that was cut short its string of successes was Matanzas, who gave in 2x0 against Los Cachorros from Holguin.

In other matches, Villa Clara suffered another defeat to Granma, this time by 5x3 margin and was put aside from the *Sorting Zone*. Santiago de Cuba gave the 1st super 20x1 knockout to Isla de la Juventud in 5 innings; Las Tunas surpassed 9x2 Artemisa and Guantanamo bowed 13x3 Mayabeque in 7 chapters.

When there are only 16 challenges to play for most of the teams, Ciego de Avila dominates the Standings with 21-8, followed by Pinar del Rio (18-9), Industriales (19-10) and Granma (18-10).

Then shows Las Tunas (17-10) and Matanzas (16-12), Cienfuegos (14-12), Sancti Spiritus (15-14) and Guantanamo (14-14), to close with Villa Clara (14-15), Holguin (14-15) and Isla de la Juventud (14-14), Santiago de Cuba (11-18), Artemisa (8-18), Camagüey (8-21) and Mayabeque (4-24).

## **Boxing**

The early opponents of Cuban boxers in the world cap in Qatar were defined on Tuesday after playing its 1st competitive program in the city of Doha.

In flyweight, Cuban Johany Argilagos debuts against the Spanish Samuel Carmona on Thursday, while at featherweight, the *Toronto 2015 Pan-American* monarch undefeated this Season, Andy Cruz, will go against Russian Bahtovar Nazirov.

Meanwhile, twice runner-up in 2011 and 2013, Yasniel Toledo, rivals Moroccan Abdelhaj Aatakni, and medium Arlén López will face the Slovenian Aljaz Venko.

Finally, heavy Erislandy Savón, who participates in his 4th world cap, opens against the Ecuadorian Julio Castillo.

The 1st date of the *XVIII World Boxing Championship* brought 8 Latin-American triumphs: 2 from Brazil, Ecuador and Venezuela, in each case, as well as 1 from the representatives of Mexico and Puerto Rico, while 14 Latinos were presented in 52,60,69,81 and more than 91 kg. divisions in the 2nd preliminary date on Tuesday.

## **Volleyball**

Cuba defeated Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 on Wednesday to leave Veracruz' *Cordova Arena*, home of the *NORCECA Men's Volleyball Tournament*, to ratify its undefeated status in *Group B*.

Again the fortress in blocking (9-1) and the effective service (10-0) assured the Cubans their 2nd qualifying success just to the *Final Four Olympic Qualifying* in January next year, this time 25-11, 25-13 and 25 -12.

The captain Rolando Cepeda led again the Cuban attack with 9 points, followed by Javier Jimenez 8, while Ryan Stewart scored 5 for the Trinidadians.

In the other result of *Group B*, Mexico beat Costa Rica 3-0 to reach 2 wins without defeat, and now Cuban Rodolfo Sanchez's disciples and the host will define this leader group, while in the other match of the NORCECA, Puerto Rico defeated Honduras 3-0 in *Group A*.

The leaders of each group will advance directly to the semifinals, while the 2nd and 3rd places will contest the quarter-finals by the *cross-system*.

## **CONCACAF Olympic Qualifying Soccer**

Cuba tied to 2 goals with Canada at the end of the preliminary stage of the *CONCACAF Olympic Qualifying Tournament* by what the dream of qualifying for the *2016 Olympics* in Rio was gone.

The ones run by Raul Gonzalez Triana showed desire and despite being always under the marker, they managed to draw thanks to the inspiration of its best man, Arichel Hernandez, with 1 double at 33.88 minutes.

The striker, Maichel Petrasso, at 26 minutes and Molhan Babouli, at 52, were the author of Canadian targets in the match held at the *Dick's Sporting Goods Park*, Commerce City, Colorado.

With this result, Canada advanced to the semifinals as the 2nd team in *Group A* with 4 points from 9 possible, behind the undefeated the United States.

Mexico and Honduras are already classified in *Group B*, although this Wednesday defines the clashes to cross in the semifinals.

The *CONCACAF Olympic qualifying* gives its finalists direct ticket to the Olympics in Rio next Summer.

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