

Sport News Round Up March 20



Baseball

Matanzas left out of the classification to Holguín to leave it on the field in 10 innings by 4-3, led by offensive of Raul Gonzalez and right-handed relief winner Maikel Martínez.

Meanwhile, Villa Clara broke their losing streak by beating 7-3 to Artemisa with 2nd success of reliever Alain Sanchez, supported by outfielder Yordanis Linares' homer with load bases, and solo homers of catcher Rudeldis Garcia and Andy Sarduy.

Then, Industriales was consolidated in 3rd seat after beating 4-1 to Pinar del Río, with pitching highlight of Noevis Entenza and Leorisbel Sanchez, and offensive role of Rudy Reyes, Rayko Olivares, Josuán Hernández and Lourdes Y. Gourriel with solo RBIs; defeated Vladimir Baños tolerated 4 cleans in 3 innings.

Despite the failure, Pinar del Río has practically assured its berth to classification with 4 games ahead of the 5th seat, Holguín, when there are only 5 remaining challenges to finish the regular Season.

So, Matanzas (53-29) still leads the Table followed by Pinar del Río (50-32), Industriales (48-34), Villa Clara (47-35), Holguín (46-36), Artemisa (39-42), Isla de la Juventud (38-42) and Santiago de Cuba (34-47).

Softball

Granma's team knocked down today, in this eastern city, to Holguin, so it only needs another win to retain the title of *National Female Softball Champion*, 1st category.

According to the applied system, these two teams, 1st and 2nd in the qualifying stage, will meet this Thursday, last date of the lid, in a cap where visitors require 2 wins to win the title.

Meanwhile, Villa Clara secured 3rd place, but fell to Pinar del Rio by 9-11, while Guantanamo bowed 4-1 to Havana.

Sotomayor

The Cuban former athlete Javier Sotomayor said today he is honored to be called to give lectures on his successful sport career in the Spanish city of Palma de Mallorca. It will be a great honour to talk about my experience as athlete and how I could reach success, said the high jump world champion.

In statements to Radio habana Cuba, Sotomayor talked about a meeting organized by the *House of Friendship Balear-Cuba*, under the slogan: *How to become a champion*.

The best high jumper in the history, owner of the outdoor (2.45 meters) and indoor (2.43 meters) records, was Olympic champion in Barcelona 1992 and won 10 medals (6-3-1) in world championships.

The winner of the *Prince of Asturias in Sports* will give his first lecture next Thursday at the *Catalina Valls Municipal Theater*, where he will be introduced by tennis player Carlos Moya, captain of the Spanish team of *Copa Davis*, while on Saturday he will be at *Santa Margalida Auditorium*.

Sotomayor has great popularity in Spain, because it was there where he established two of his world records, the latter is the current outdoor record, reached on July 27, 1993, in Salamanca.

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