

Sport News Roundup May 12



Beach Volleyball

The Cuban beach volleyball pairs gave an excellent demonstration at the 2nd phase of the NORCECA Circuit, where men won the gold medal again while the women managed to get the bronze.

In the city of Antigua, Guatemala, venue of the event, Sergio Gonzalez and Nivaldo Diaz defeated Puerto Ricans Roberto Rodriguez and Eric Haddock 21-15 and 21-13 to win unbeaten their 2nd gold medal of the Season, while Lianma Flores and Leila Martinez surpassed their previous performance and ended in 4th place with the bronze.

Chess

Cuban GM Leinier Dominguez reached his 1st victory on Sunday at the Capablanca in Memoriam International Chess Tournament that placed him at the forefront with 2.5 points out of 4.

Leinier, 10th player in the world ranking, used black pieces and a Sicilian defense and minimized Spanish Francisco Vallejo's space to prevail while Cuba's Lázaro Bruzón finished tied with Hungarian Zoltan Almasi after 42 moves.

Meanwhile, Philippine GM Wesley So also drew with his Ukrainian counterpart Vassily Ivanchuk in 85 moves.

Thus, Leinier, So and Almasi completed 2.5 units while Bruzón got 2, Ivanchuk 1.5 and Vallejo just 1 point.

Finally, the Premier Group were 3 successes, 1 of which among Cubans and was dominated by Yusnel Bacallao over Cuban national monarch Isam Ortiz.

Cycling

Cuba's Arlenis Sierra, in the female category, and the Ecuadorian Byron Guama, in the male, were crowned champions in the route category of the Pan-American Cycling Championship held in Tijuana, Mexico.

The Cuban won with 2:16.52 hours to beat American and Colombian Megan Guarnier Laura Lozano, while the Ecuadorian Guama won by winning the 171.2 km. event with 4:33.42 hours, followed by American Joseph Roskopf and Colombian Juan Pablo Suarez, with the same time as the winner.

Cliff diving

Britain's Blake Aldridge unexpectedly won the 1st event in the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series on Saturday beating out Mexico's Jonathan Paredes, who was followed by Britain's Gary Hunt and American Steven LoBue, in that order.

Divers jumped from a 27-meter platform positioned on Havana's historic Morro Castle at the very entrance of Havana Bay where thousands of spectators watched them from the Cuban capital's famed Malecon seaside.

"I think the wind was key for all of us, and although we all were a bit nervous standing on the platform, it was excellent and the water was warm, which made the fall smoother," said Mexican Paredes.

Saturday's dive was the 1st event of the 2014 Cliff Diving World Series, which will end in October in Niteroi, Brazil, after passing through the United States, Ireland, Norway, Portugal and Spain.

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