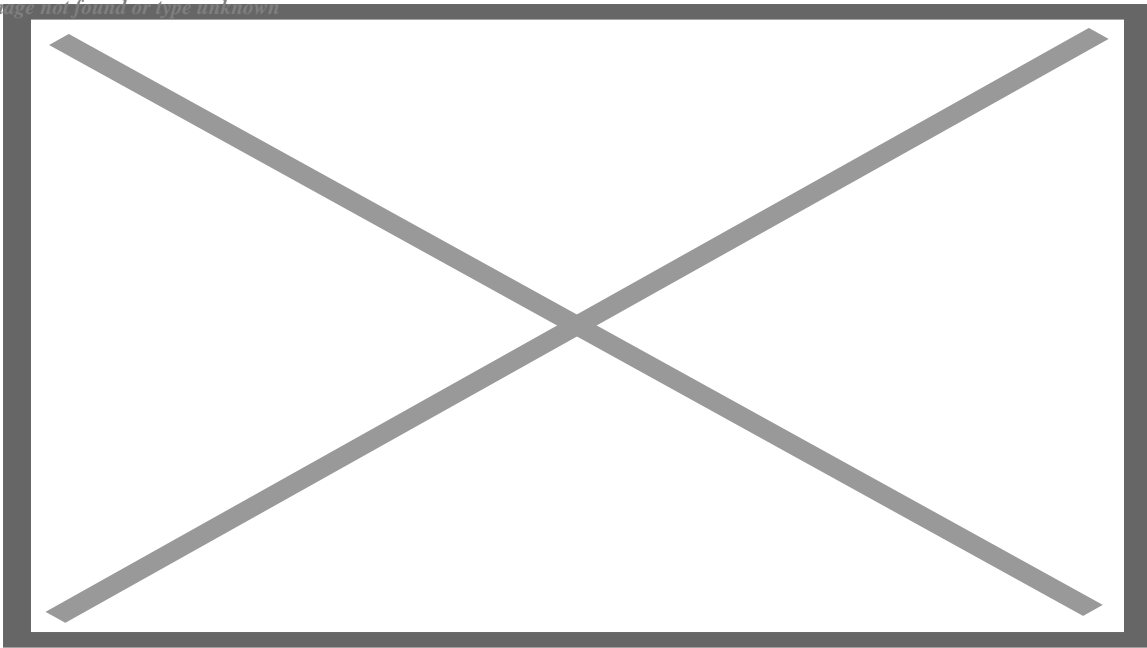


Artemisa still clinging to the top of Cuban baseball

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Dayan Garcia

Havana, April 27 (ACN) - Artemisa continues clinging to the top in the Cuban national baseball series and on the most recent date defeated Cuban runner-up Matanzas 17-7, with an offense of 19 hits, including two home runs.

The Cazadores de Artemisa also included in their artillery no less than seven doubles and a triple. With the medero, catcher Andy Cosme stood out, who hit 5-4 with two doubles, a home run and five RBIs. The other home run came from Dayán García, who reached 10 in the tournament and tied for the lead with Osday Silva, from Santiago.

Eight errors were committed in the game and 17 bases were awarded.

With this success, the Cazadores are 17-10 and are one game behind their closest pursuers: Pinar del Río and Santiago de Cuba (16-11).

The Vegueros de Pinar relied on another good pitching performance by seasoned right-hander Erly Casanova to beat Ciego de Avila 8-5. Casanova threw a complete game, scattered nine singles, gave

seven strikeouts and only conceded one ticket.

Lázaro Blanco, who went 4-3 with a pair of towers, was the best hitter for the Pinar del Río team.

And Santiago de Cuba divided honors in the double game it had to play against Villa Clara. First they defeated the Azucareros 2-0, with a smile for Javier Mirabal, who pitched the seven innings at a rate of four hits and five strikeouts, without conceding a ticket.

In the final game, the Avispas won 10-7, with Osday Silva, who hit 3-2 with a home run, triple and six RBIs, the leader in that department (40).

In addition, La Isla won the double header against Sancti Spíritus with scores of 11-1 (knockout) and 5-2.

In the first match, right-hander Jonathan Carbó obtained his fifth victory of the season, leader.

In the remaining results, Industriales defeated Guantánamo 8-6, Holguín 8-6 against the monarch Granma, Mayabeque 13-2 against Cienfuegos and Camagüey 7-3 against Las Tunas, which suffered its fifth successive defeat.

Artemisa now leads with 17-10, followed by Pinar and Santiago 16-11, Ciego 15-11, Matanzas and La Isla 15-12.

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