

Sports News Roundup Sept 15



Wrestling

The two-time Olympic champion, Cuban Mijain Lopez, won in Tashkent his 5th title in *World Wrestling Championship* in the 130 kilogram division.

Lopez took revenge on Turkish Riza Kayaalp, who had beat him 3 years ago in his turf in Istanbul, and with a 2-0 verdict lifted another crown to add top those won in Budapest, Baku, Herning and Moscow.

According to the event's official website, Cuban Mijain Lopez is consolidated as one of the best Greco-Roman fighters in history, with many titles in all categories and kinds of events.

Volleyball

Cuba claimed the Bronze Medal prevailing over hosts Peru 3-1 (25-21, 25-16, 19-25, 25-17) with impressive 31 points from young Melissa Vargas in the conclusion of the *II Women's U-23 Pan-American Volleyball Cup* at *Jose Oliva Razzeto Coliseum*.

Young Melissa Vargas scored a tournament-high of 31 points, including 24 kills, 3 blocks and 4 aces to stop the home team's efforts; Peru was left out of options while Cuba dominated with stronger kills to finish in 3rd place. Cuba was challenged by Peru on several occasions; they even lost the fourth period with considerable advantage.

Cuba showed superiority with a 50-38 margin in attacks and 12-7 in blocking; their serves weren't that significant over Peru (7-6) nor did the unforced errors by each team, Cuba have 28 and Peru 25.

Joining opposite player Vargas, were outside hitters Regla Garcia and Sulian Matienzo with 10 tallies apiece. Captain Angela Leyva led Peru with 16 points, followed by Katherine Regalado with 12 points.

Cuban coach Juan Carlos Gala said he was very happy with his pupils after yesterday's loss they recovered well and will be traveling to the world championship in Italy with new hopes of better results.

Athletics

Europe won the 2nd edition of the *Athletics Continental Cup* held on Saturday and Sunday in the Moroccan city of Marrakech, beating America, which was in the 2nd.

Europe largely won with 447.5 points ahead of America (390 pts), Africa (339) and Asia Pacific (257.5).

The highlights were for Cuban discus thrower Jorge Hernández with 62.97 m., and L. Yordán O'Farrill, who ended 3rd in 110m hurdles with 13.67.

Meanwhile, Colombia dominated in cycling where Cuba closed 3rd closed in *Cycling Track*, to get 13 medals and implement regional records in the *team sprint* and *individual* categories.

Canada was the 2nd in the overall standings with 7 medals, 4 of them of gold, while Cuba ended 3rd with 8 medals (3-4-1), highlighting Lissandra Guerra, winner of 3 medals who also set a new record in the *500 ms trial* with 33.036 sec. and *speed* test.

Baseball

Cuban outfielder Jorge Luis Oña was the leading hitter of the *X Pan-American Youth Baseball Championship*, which ended on Sunday in Mexico, with the triumph of the United States, followed by Cuba and Canada.

Oña, averaged 636, with 14 hits in 22 at-bats, including 4 doubles and 4 homers.

For Cuba, plus Oña, stressed offensively his fellow and central outfielder Victor Victor Mesa, with 22-11, for 500 average, and designated batter Robert Luis, with 3 doubles, 4 homers and 18 RBIs.

The event was held for 10 days in California and ended with the victory of the United States, following the cancellation of the title game, because of the threat of *Hurricane Odile*.

The Americans finished undefeated with 8 and 0, escorted by Cuba 6-2, and Canada, who won the bronze against Mexico by 9-7; however, these 4 teams qualified for the *World Junior Baseball Championship 2015*.

The All Stars team included 3 Cubans: Omar Estévez, as *Best Second Baseman*; José Oña, *Best Left Outfielder*; and Victor Victor Mesa, *Best Central Outfielder*.

And talking about ball, this time local baseball, Artemisa team won the *1st National Baseball Championship U23* category after beating whitewashing Camagüey by 6-0 in the 3rd game of the final series from the best of 5 games to play.

Artemisa swept Camaguey in all their bilateral caps with a powerful offensive and an impressive pitching, and dedicated their success to local extinct stellar pitcher Yadier Pedroso, who lost his life after his return from the *III World Classic* because of a car accident.

The teams of Matanzas, Santiago de Cuba, Ciego de Ávila, Mayabeque, Cienfuegos, Sancti Spiritus, Holguin, Granma, Villa Clara, Pinar del Rio, Havana, Isla de la Juventud, Las Tunas, and Guantanamo closed in that order.

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