

Alazanes looking to equalise in Cuban baseball semifinals

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Havana, July 12 (PL) - The Alazanes de Granma will take to the field this Friday at the Mártires de Barbados stadium in Bayamo looking to level the semi-final playoff against the Leñadores de Las Tunas after losing 3-1 the day before.

The Granma artillery was able to hit just six hits in the opening game, a key factor in the defeat, in a game in which third baseman Yosvani Alarcón, who hit 3-2, both doubles, and drove in a pair of runs, shone for the Tunas team.

From the mound, left-hander Leandro Martínez will once again pitch a vital game for the four-time national champions, in need of a victory to bring the game on even terms to the Julio Antonio Mella stadium of the current Cuban baseball champions, the Tuneros.

Granma made a phenomenal comeback in the quarter-finals against Matanzas, beating them in three consecutive challenges to take the series 4-3.

Their offensive leader Alfredo Despaigne, despite showing improvement with the bat, has yet to show his full potential.

Meanwhile, the rain arrived at the Capitán San Luis stadium when Pinar del Río had only one out left to take its second consecutive win over Industriales in the Cuban baseball semifinal playoff.

The game was 7-6, after former major leaguer Yasmani Tomás hit a three-run home run to bring the Industriales Leones within one.

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