

Sports News Roundup Jan. 26



Triathlon

The *Copa America* and the *Latin-American Triathlon Championships* successfully completed their activities after two days of intense competition on the streets of this capital, with the finishing line at the *Anti-Imperialist Tribune*, nearby the Malecon seafront drive and in front of the US Interests Section in Havana.

Just as expected, the event went smoothly for being the first edition, which will be repeated in 3 years, in 2018.

This Sunday culminated the most demanding tests of the contest, the *middle* (1.9 km swim, 90 km bike and 21.1 mile run) and *long distance* events (3.8 km-180 km- 42.2 km), whose winners were awarded works by known local plastic artists such as Nelson Dominguez, Eduardo Roca "Choco", Roberto Chile, Maikel Herrera, Juan Moreira, Alicia Leal and Alexis Leyva "Kcho".

The winners this last day were the American Kathleen Smith, with a time of 12:53.12 hours, followed by Mexican Tabata Carrasco (13:24.24) and the

Spanish Alicia Garcia (14:34.57), in that order; while among men, highlighted the Argentine Juan Manuel Asconape (10:41.19), the Costa Rican Hector Fonseca (10:46.20), and the host Raúl Alcolea 10: 55.13 h, in the demanding *long distance* trial.

Also, in the *middle* distance there were no surprises and Spanish Marcel Zamora won the title in 4:20.56 h, escorted by Costa Rican Ernesto Espinoza (4:37.57) and the Guatemalan Andres Fonseca (4:43.31).

Zamora, 5 times winner of the *Iron man circuit* in the phases of Monaco (2006-2007) and France (2006-2007-2008), said he hopes to return next year, since he enjoyed the competition and the care provided was superb.

In the women's section, the French Mathilde Batailler was crowned with 5:16.03 h to overtake the Costa Rican Mauren Solano (5:21.20) and Brazilian Graciella Renzzo (5:28.32).

On Saturday, the event opened with the *Sprint* mode corresponding to the *Copa America*, which was won by US Renee Tomlin, among the ladies, and by Mexican Rodrigo Gonzalez, among men.

This section, which awarded ranking points for the continental qualifier coming in *Toronto July 2015* and the *Olympics in Rio de Janeiro 2016*, Cuban Michel Hernández and Lisandra González closed on the 4th and 6th seat, consecutively.

The closing ceremony was presided over by Marisol Casado, President of the International Union, Antonio Becali, holder of local INDER, and René González, Hero of the Republic of Cuba, among others figures.

Boxing

A week after sweeping the *Moroccans' Lions* by 5-0, Cuba's *Los Domadores* also passed the sweep against the *Algeria's Hawks of the Desert* in the *V World Series of Boxing* and will bump into Russia, *Group A*, --their 1st serious opponent-- at the capital's *Sports City Coliseum*.

They did it this time as visitors in the city of Blida, thanks to Yosbany Veitía (52 kg), Roniel Iglesias (69), Julio Cesar Cruz (81), Leinier Peró (+91) and Lázaro Alvarez (60), who had won from the weighing but still faced in an exhibition match against Reda Benbaziz.

Previously, the Russians, who had beaten 4-1 to China's *Dragons* in the 2nd date, saw postponed their 1st match against the *Hawks*, so they will face the *Otamans* from Ukraine, in their qualifying key.

Precisely Ukrainians defeated 3-2 to the British *Lion hearts*, while Mexico's *Los Guerreros* did the same (4-1) on *Moroccans Lions*. Finally, in *Group B* the *Caciques* of Venezuela face the Azeri *Baku Fires* (1-4), the Polish *Hussars* vs. Kazakhstan's *Arlans Astaná* (2-3), Argentina's *Condors* go against Puerto Rico's *Hurricane* (2-3), and US *Knockouts* are opposed to Italy's *Thunder* (3-2).

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