

# *Sports News Roundup April 06*

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## **Baseball**

The end of the *54th Cuban Baseball Championships* between Ciego de Avila and Isla de la Juventud will be resumed on Monday with both teams tied at 1 game apiece.

After celebrating 2 challenges at the *José Ramón Cepero Stadium* in Ciego de Avila, the series will continue on Monday at the *Cristobal Labra Stadium*, Isla de la Juventud, where 3 matches will be played during Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

"We just need to tame the tiger," said a cartoon on the *Rio Las Casas* catamaran, in which fans of both teams shared the journey with jokes and choirs when they moved to *Cristóbal Labra Stadium*.

It will be a hard clash for Ciego de Avila's, who in the past 16 seasons have 19 wins by 27's of the Islanders, very dominant when playing at home, as is demonstrated in the current year.

The right-handers Yoalkis Cruz and Yander Guevara, for Isla de la Juventud and Ciego, have been announced for this vital cap, both with determining performance in their semi-final exits against Matanzas and Granma, respectively.

And another from baseball says that the *Cuban Baseball Federation* announced the cancellation of a contract for player Yulieski Gurriel with the *Japanese Central Professional League*.

In an official release, the Federation said that given the late show up by the player to the *Yokohama DeNa Baystars Cub*, due to lesions during the current local championship of which Gurriel is recovering slowly,

the contract he signed for the 2015 Season with the Japanese League was canceled.

The cancellation process was carried out in a respectful and transparent manner between the parties, having in mind the excellent relations between the Japanese League, the *Yokohama Club* and the *Cuban Baseball Federation*, the official note explained.

## **Handball**

Cuba bowed for the 2nd time to Mexico and took the crown of the *North-Caribbean Handball Tournament* for women played in the Puerto Rican town of Salinas.

The students of Lorenzo Maturel won 35-24 to finish unbeaten in 6 presentations, in a game where Yunisleidis Camejo scored 7 times and led the attack of Central-American champions, also supported with 6 goals of Eyarne Rizo and 5 from Ayling Martínez.

Cuba had surpassed Mexico 29-19 in the preliminary round, in which also imposed on Puerto Rico (52-15), United States (35-15), Martinique (33-17) and Greenland (32-23); while the States closed 3rd after winning 27-23 to Greenland.

## **Swimming**

Young Elisbeth Gámez and Armando Barreras were the most outstanding swimmers at *Marcelo Salado Swimming Cup*, held in Havana, where they reached their tickets for the *Pan-American Games* in Toronto, Canada.

Their records, in fact crucial as this is the only official competition that granted direct access to the continental cap, along with that of the *World Swimming Cup* of Kazan, Russia, were the most outstanding athletes considering the table of 1000 points by which mermen's and mermaids' performance are measured.

Elisbeth Gamez, 18, won 784 points in 200 meter freestyle for her 2: 02.48 min, in addition to winning 4 gold medals in the lid, while Barreras, 19, excelled with 56.38 in 100 backstroke to get 781 points in the table and winning 3 gold medals.

Both swimmers will now observe a training base for 3 weeks at the *Olympic Village* in Salinas city, southeast of Puerto Rico, where they will travel on April 19th together with Luis Vega, Ihosvany Lopez and Christian Ricardo, under the aegis of Luisa Maria Mojarrieta and Migmary Calderón.

Precisely Vega was another who surpassed 700 points in the Cup to mark 4: 28.09 in the 400 individual medley.

## **Wrestling**

Cuba will compete with 6 fighters in freestyle at the *Pan-American Wrestling Championship*, based in Chile from April 24th to 26th.

The Cuban team is composed of young gladiators who will go to this event in Chile to be among the medalists, in a contest that will give 5 tickets for *Toronto 2015* in each division, said the Cuban head coach Julio Mendieta.

The list consists of Alfredo Cisneros, at 57 kilograms, Dayron Carbonell, (65), Esteban Quintana (74), Yurieski Torreblanca (86), Abraham Conyedo (97), and Andrés Ramos (125).

The Cuban technician explained that Cisneros will be responsible to qualify for his division, because Cuba already has the rest of the seats guaranteed for the continental competition in Canada.

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