

# *Sports News Roundup March 17*

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## **Baseball**

Just a few pending details are tuning up for the successful holding of the friendly baseball cap agreed for the 22nd to come at the *Latinoamericano Stadium* in Havana between a Cuban team and the *Tampa Bay Rays*, from US Major Leagues.

Among those details are some of the ground and lights, where a multidisciplinary team is working hard, Vice President of INDER, Antonio López Cubilla, told to national and foreign press accredited in Havana.

"We all have worked hard to develop this historic meeting, and the current investor and key rebuilding stage will continue the rest of the year to celebrate world rigor parties that could perfectly begin with a Caribbean Series," said López Cubilla.

The Havana's *Latinoamericano Stadium*, opened in 1946, turns 70 on October 24th, and until 1960, it was the setting for the "*Triple A*" Championships, training sessions of Major League teams, Baseball Championships of the so-called *Florida League*, and the I Caribbean Series.

It was also the host of the *National Amateur League Baseball* games and since its premiere took place, the stadium has been the scene of dissimilar sports, cultural and political events, among other activities.

## **Boxing**

Roniel Iglesias gave Cuba its 3rd semifinal berth at the *Pre-Olympic Qualifying Boxing top*, based in

Buenos Aires, Argentina, after defeating smoothly the American Paul Kroll in the quarterfinals.

Thus, Iglesias, Olympic and world champion at 69 kilograms, was added to the already qualified Erislenny Savón and Leinier Peró.

After Wednesday's results, they are the 12 fighters who advanced to discuss the medals of the contest, an event which grants 25 tickets for men and 5 for women to attend Rio Olympics.

Boxing Olympics will feature the participation of 280 athletes, including 36 women.

### **Athletics**

With the final pole vault events, in either sex, the *World Indoor Athletics Championships* will begin today in the US city of Portland, attended by 3 Cubans.

The pole vaulter Yarisley Silva, Olympic silver medalist in *London 2012* and champion in Sopot, Poland, 2 years ago, is one of the great absentee, after desisting from defending her crown due to the accident suffered by her couple, high jumper Sergio Mestre.

However, triple jumper Pedro Pablo Pichardo, bronze in 2014, who needs rest to close the recovery phase from a micro-fracture right ankle injury, will be no present as well.

Thus, in this strong competition that will run until February 20th, Cuba will be represented by short hurdlers Yordan O'Farrill and Johanis Portilla, and the 800 meter runner Rose Mary Almanza, for whom the Championship will serve as preparation for the Olympics in Rio.

The 3 Cubans debut on Saturday 19th in the qualifying heats of their respective events.

Two years ago, Cuba won a medal of each color in this World Cup event on Polish soil, a harvest completed by the triple jumper Ernesto Revé's silver medal.

### **Badminton**

The first Cuban badminton player Osleni Guerrero is in Kingston, Jamaica, to intervene in the international tournament of that Caribbean country, which starts today.

Located in place 58th in the world ranking, the Cuban Osleni Guerrero competes in his 5th tournament of the year, just after taking part in Los Angeles, in the United States, Guatemala, Peru and Brazil.

Osleni won the Guatemalan appointment, then reached quarterfinals in Sao Paulo, Brazil, but was eliminated in the first round in Los Angeles and Lima, Peru.

In the 2nd edition of the International of Jamaica, Osleni appears as seeded number one, and will be escorted by American Howard Shu (2) and Austrians David Obernosterer (3) and Luka Wraber (4).

According to the organization of the competition, the debut of the runner-up at the Pan-American Games Guadalajara 2011, will be from the knockout stage against a rival between the local Kenneth Anglin and Italian Rosario Maddaloni.



**Radio Habana Cuba**