



Dominican Republic was the only winner from NORCECA in Day One at Mexico

TIJUANA, Mexico, August 1, 2007.- The Dominican Republic was the only team from NORCECA with a winning start at the 2007 FIVB Girls' Youth World Championship with USA, Puerto Rico and Mexico coming out on the loser end in Day One of action.

The Dominicans edged Peru in a five-set gruelling battle between Latin Americans in Tijuana. The Dominicans came back from a 1-2 deficit and triumphed 15-25, 25-11, 18-25, 25-22, 18-16.



Jeoselina Rodriguez was the best Dominican scorer with 29 points, Lisvel Eve added 13 and Yenifer Calcano and Marifranchi Rodriguez chipped in 9 apiece.

“I felt a big responsibility to do well and only thought of my country when the decisive set came in,” said Rodriguez. “I hope to win another match and advance to the second round.”

Also in Tijuana, Belgium defeated Mexico 3-0 (25-14, 25-18, 25-17) with Jolien Wittock and Adeline Lemey scoring 12 and 10 respectively. The best Mexican was Ixtlali Herrera with 10 points.

In other matches in Tijuana, Serbia beat Korea (29-27, 25-19, 25-17) and Russia blanked Italy (25-23, 25-22, 26-24).

Meanwhile in Mexicali, Japan used quick attacks to defeat Puerto Rico in straight sets 25-23, 25-18, 25-13 with Hiroko Matsuura (17) and Sayuri Tamura (12) as the top contributors to the scoring. Joedly Narvaez was the best Puerto Rican with 8 tallies.

In the second match there, Turkey crushed USA in just over one hour by scores of 25-19, 25-16, 25-19. Ayse Gurkaynak led a well balanced attack with 10 tallies and Busra Cansu, Fatma Yildirim and Naz Aydemir each had 9 points. American Tarah Murrey led all the scorers with 16 points.

In other matches in Mexicali, Brazil defeated Germany 25-21, 20-25, 25-20, 25-14 and China crushed Tunisia 25-9, 25-13, 25-8.

