

Cuba and Mexico complete semifinalists in Veracruz

CORDOBA, Mexico, November 18, 2014 – Cuba and hosts Mexico have completed the semifinalists of the women's volleyball tournament at the XXII Central American and Caribbean Games after victories over Costa Rica and Colombia respectively at Arena Cordoba on Tuesday.

Young Melissa Vargas, who turned 15 years-old last month, led Cuba to a 25-17, 25-12, 25-17 victory over Colombia in 64 minutes. Vargas finished with 23 points, including four blocks and four aces.

In the other quarterfinal contest, Andrea Rangel and Carolina Carranza each contributed 12 points to the 25-23, 25-17, 26-24 win over Colombia.

Seomara Sainz and Claudia Rios also finished with double figures for the winners with 10 points apiece. Colombia's Margarita Martinez had a matchhigh 17 points while Amanda Coneo had twelve.

In Wednesday's semifinals, Cuba will play against Puerto Rico and Mexico will challenge the three-time defending champions Dominican Republic.

"The service was a key for us," Cuban coach Juan Carlos Gala said. "Our tactical plan really worked well."

"I am very proud of my girls," Mexican coach Jorge Azair commented. "They (Colombia) had defeated us at the Senior Pan American Cup earlier this year but we worked a lot with our offence and made the right adjustments against their attackers."





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