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## Dominican Republic and USA to play for the gold medal at the Pan Am Cup



MEXICALI, Baja California, June 10, 2006.- The Dominican Republic will meet USA in the finals of the First Men's Pan American Volleyball Cup as a result of its victory over Mexico in the semi final round by score of 26-24, 25-20, 25-23. USA advanced to the gold medal match by defeating Canada in straight sets by score of 25-23, 26-24, 25-19.

Both teams are qualified for the America's Cup to be held in Venezuela in September.

The bronze medallist also will gain a berth in that intercontinental event. Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela will be the South America's representatives. Jose Caceres led the Dominican attack with 22 points (18 spikes, two blocks and two aces) and Elvis Contreras and Eury Almonte had 13 and 11 respectively. Jose Martell (21) and Mario Becerra (10) were the Mexicans in double figures.

James Polster and Brook Billings, with 17 and 13 points respectively, were the top scorers of USA while Dallas Soonias and Fred Winters had 13 and 12 for Canada. In the first match of Saturday, Cuba defeated Panama in straight sets by score of 25-17, 25-11, 25-17 and finished in the fifth position.

Raidel Delgado was the top Cuban scorer with 13 points, Pedro Ruiz and Yadier Sanchez each had 10 and Rolando Junquin added 9. Edward Diaz had 10 for Panama. "I am very satisfied with the result and on Sunday we will give



110 percent against USA," said Julio Frias, the Dominican coach.

"Now we are in the finals of this event and we are going to play as hard as we can to take the title," said Hugh McCutcheon; the USA coach.

On Sunday morning, Panama will meet Trinidad & Tobago in the match for the sixth place. Canada and Mexico will play for the bronze medal in the anteroom of the gold medal match.

