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Mexico and USA are semi finalists of Pan Am Cup

MEXICALI, Baja California, June 7, 2006.- Mexico and USA won their respective pools and are the first semi finalist of the First Men's Pan American Volleyball Cup.

Jose Martell scored five points in the tie-breaker and Mexico won a second five-setter in as many days by defeating Dominican Republic 23-25, 25-21, 17-25, 25-21, 15-12.

In Tijuana, USA also needed five sets to defeat Cuba 20-25, 25-18, 25-23, 21-25, 15-9. Ivan Contreras was the top scorer of Mexico with 24 points and Martell and Gustavo Meyer contributed with 18 and 12 respectively. Dominicans Elvis Contreras and Jose Caceres had 27 and 26 points and Eury Almonte added 12.

David McKenzie was the top scorer of USA with 16 points, William Priddy had 15 and Phillip Eatherton 11. Cuban Rolando Junquin was the best of the match with 19 points, Yohan Llanes added 15 and Yadier Sanchez and Darien Garcia each had 12.

Earlier in Mexicali, Canada came back strong after playing five sets the night before and blanked Trinidad & Tobago 25-17, 25-9, 25-19 displaying its power game.

Fred Winters and Christian Bernier each scored 10 points as leaders of the Canadian attack and Pascal Cardinal added 9. Trinidadian Nolan Tash led all the scorers with 15 points.

Cuba will meet Dominican Republic and Panama will play Canada in the round of quarter finals.

