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USA and Dominican Republic to meet again in gold medal match

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, June 18, 2014 – Two-time defending champions United States and Dominican Republic will play for the gold medal of the Women's Volleyball Pan American Cup for second consecutive year after scoring straight set victories in their semifinal matches on Wednesday.

The Americans, who are seeking their third consecutive crown a feat never achieved in the history of the intercontinental competition, brushed aside Puerto Rico 25-15, 25-21, 25-17, while the Dominicans overcame a resilient Argentina 25-21, 25-18, 26-24.

United States 3, Puerto Rico 0

Two-time defending champions United States cruised to a straight set victory (25-15, 25-21, 25-17) in the first semifinal. USA team outblocked Puerto Rico 16-3 with TeTori Dixon leading the way with five or her own, while Carli Lloyd, Bailey Webster and Cursty Jackson each had three. Webster was the top scorer for the winners with 16 points, followed by Jackson and Dixon with 12 and 11, respectively. Aurea Cruz finished with 13 points for Puerto Rico.

Dominican Republic 3, Argentina 0

Dominican Republic advanced to the gold medal match after dispatching Argentina in straight sets (25-21, 25-18, 26-24) in their semifinal contest. The winners dominated in attacks (40-30) and held a slight margin in blocks (12-10) with both teams scoring three aces apiece. Bethania De la Cruz and Gina Mambru each produced 14 points to pace the Dominican offense. Marianne Fersola added 10, including a match-high six blocks, and Yonkaira Peña added nine in the victory. Emilce Sosa was the only player of Argentina who reached double figures in the scoring charts. Tanya Acosta had 8 in the loss.

Colombia 3, Mexico 2

Colombia edged Mexico after a long five-set battle (19-25, 25-19, 18-25, 31-29, 15-11) for the seventh position. Amanda Coneo and Margarita Martinez shared the honors as top scorers of the winning side with 21 points apiece while Ivonne Montano chipped in 9 points. Andrea Rangel and Alejandra Segura were the top Mexican scorers with 19 and 16 points, respectively. Lizbeth Sainz added 12 and Dulce Carranza had 11 in the losing cause.

Peru 3, Costa Rica 1

Peru defeated Costa Rica 3-1 (25-12, 25-12, 22-25, 25-14) in the match for the ninth position. Karla Ortiz paced Peru's offense with 17 points, followed by Maguilaura Frias and Angela Leyva each with 15 points. Angela Willis and Paola Ramirez finished with 13 and 11 points, respectively, for Costa Rica. Peru led in attacks (51-35), blocks (13-8) and aces (5-3). The winners made 17 errors to 28 by the losers.



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