



Brazil beat USA advancing to the finals

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, July 18, 2007.- Brazil and Cuba will play for the gold medal of women's volleyball in the Pan American Games Rio 2007.

The Brazilians got an easy victory over USA 3-0 (25-13, 25-20 y 25-20) and Cuba scored a convincing triumph over Peru by scores of 25-14, 25-23 y 25-22. USA and Peru will meet for the bronze medal.

Paula Pequeno and Sheila Castro had 16 and 15 points respectively to lead Brazil and Walewska Oliveira had 10 points. The best scorers for USA were Cynthia Barboza with 11 tallies and Tayyiba Haneef-Park with 10.

The Cubans displayed their usual strong attack with kills from the corners and down the middle mixed with the potent serves of Zoila Barros and Nancy Carrillo.

Barros and Carrillo led Cuba with 16 and 14 points respectively and Yumilka Ruiz had 10. Peru had Carla Tristan and Luren Baylon with 9 points apiece.

In other matches, Dominican Republic defeated Costa Rica, and Puerto Rico beat Mexico with the winners earning the chance to play for the fifth position.

The Dominicans won 25-17, 25-6 y 25-15, and Bethania de la Cruz once again was the Dominican offensive force with 17 points. Cindy Rondón, Sidarka Nunez and Annerys Vargas each with 10 points.

The Puerto Ricans defeated Mexico 25-19, 25-21, 25-18 despite playing losing its captain Aury Cruz midway the second set with a leg injury.

Karina Ocasio was the only Puerto Rican player in double figures with 16 points and Migdalel Ruiz was the best Mexican with 15.

