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USA and Canada win thrilling five-setters at Pan Am Cup

LIMA, Peru, June 11, 2013 – USA made a sensational comeback to defeat Puerto Rico 3-2 (28-30, 25-23, 14-25, 17-25, 15-13) for their second victory in as many days in Pool A of the Movistar Women's Volleyball Pan American Cup on Tuesday night.

It was one of two five-setter of day two at the intercontinental annual event, a qualifier to the FIVB World Grand Prix of 2014, as Canada edged Peru in a seesaw contest in Pool B that finished 25-19, 22-25, 25-20, 20-25, 15-11.

Argentina leads Pool A with a 2-0 win-loss record and 10 of 10 possible points while USA team also have a 2-0 mark with 8 points. These two teams decide the winner of the pool on Wednesday.

In Pool B, Cuba is at the top with 2-0 and 8 points and plays Peru (1-1) in the last day of the preliminary pool play. Canada (1-1) goes against winless Costa Rica.

The Dominican Republic tops Pool C with 9 points and meets Mexico (1-1) on Wednesday while Brazil (1-1 and 6 points) takes on winless Colombia.

Pool A in Callao

Argentina 3, Trinidad & Tobago 0
Argentina improved to a 2-0 win-loss record after defeating Trinidad & Tobago 3-0 (25-23, 25-18, 25-11). Lucia Fresco and Emilce Sosa were the top offensive contributors to the victory of Argentina with 17 and 15 points respectively. Trinidad's Chanon Thompson finished with 16 points while Krystle Esdelle chipped in 10. Argentina made 12 unforced errors to 18 of Trinidad & Tobago and held a 10-3 advantage in service winners.

United States 3, Puerto Rico 2

United States came back from a 0-2 deficit to defeat Puerto Rico 28-30, 25-23, 14-25, 17-25, 15-13 for their second victory. Puerto Rico fell to 0-2. Nicole Fawcett spearheaded the offense of the Americans with a match-high 30 points, including two blocks and three aces. Three other players finished in double figures –Megan Hodge with 17 and Kristin Hildebrand and Lauren Gibbemeyer each with 14. Karina Ocasio and Yarimar Rosa totaled 25 and 18 respectively for Puerto Rico while Daly Santana added 15. The Americans outblocked Puerto Rico 19-9 with Hildebrand registering six blocks.

Pool B in Iquitos

Canada 3, Peru 2

Canada bounced back from losing a five-setter to Cuba one night earlier to edge hosts Peru 3-2 (25-19, 22-25, 25-20, 20-25, 15-11). Margaret Barclay was the offensive leader of the Canadian side with 18 points while Kyla Richey and Jaimie Thiebault added 12 and 10 respectively. The winners held a 18-7 margin in the blocking category. Peruvian Karla Ortiz led her side with 18 points and Raffaella Camet followed with 16. Yulissa Zamudio and Diana Soto chipped in with 11 and 10.

Cuba 3, Costa Rica 0

Cuba defeated Costa Rica in consecutive sets 25-20, 25-14, 25-17 for its second victory. Rosanna Giel had 12 points as the most prolific scorer of the balanced Cuban offense with Ana Cleger and Yoana Palacios each contributing 9 points. Karen Cope finished with 10 points as the best Costa Rican scorer. Cuba held advantages of 8-5 in blocks and 5-4 in service winners. In attacks the winners were better by far 40-21 while committing 20 errors to 21 by the opponents.

Pool C in Huacho

Dominican Republic 3, Colombia 0

Dominican Republic defeated Colombia in straight sets (25-19, 25-14, 25-21) for their second victory. Bethania De la Cruz was the only player of the winning side who finished with double figures in the scores totaling 12 points. Brayelin Martinez and Annerys Vargas each recorded 9 points. Colombia's Danna Escobar had 10 points. The winners out-served the defeated side 7-4 and held a big difference of 40-27 in kill attacks.

Brazil 3, Mexico 1

Brazil defeated Mexico 3-1 (23-25, 25-16, 25-21, 25-15) and both teams have now 1-1 record. Brazil's Silvia Sara Aparecida finished with 20 points for the winners followed by Gabriela Guimaraes with 14. Rosamaria Montibeller and Saraelen Lima contributed 12 and 9 points for the win. For Mexico, Samantha Bricio finished with 32 points, including 7 aces while Alejandra Isiordia tallied 11 (3 aces). Lizbeth Sainz added 9. Brazil held a wide advantage in blocks (11-1) but Mexico was tops in aces (11-5).



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