



Puerto Ricans were prophets at home

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico. - Yarleen Santiago and Yamileska Yantin of Puerto Rico-1 played the role of prophets at home and with consistent serving and blocking won the women's gold medal at the Puerto Rican Beach Volleyball Tournament, the third leg of the 2007 NORCECA Circuit.

In the final match on the sands of Isla Verde, Santiago-Yantin downed Margarita Suero-Bethania Almanzar of Dominican Republic by score of 21-14, 21-15.

The victory proved to be sweet for Santiago, who earlier this week announced her retirement from the international volleyball competition to pursue a beach career. Vanessa Velez-Annia Ruiz of Puerto Rico-2 won the bronze medal with a 21-18, 17-21, 15-13 victory over Mariterez Ramos-Damaris Flores of Puerto Rico-3.

In the men's bracket, the American pair of Art Barron and Mike Szymanski won the gold medal after playing three consecutive matches that went to the limit on Sunday. Barron-Szymanski defeated Abdel Otero-Juan Rivera of Puerto Rico-2 in the final match by score of 21-15, 13-21, 15-12.

The Americans made it to the gold medal match with a 22-20, 14-21, 15-12 over Marcelo Araya-Jonathan Guevara of Costa Rica. Earlier in the morning they had defeated Javier Mendez-Jorge Gonzalez of Puerto Rico-3 by score of 21-15, 16-21, 15-13. The bronze medal went to Araya-Guevara with a 21-11, 21-17 win against Orlando Irizarry- Luis Rodriguez of Puerto Rico-4.

Tournament's complete results

Women

First Round: PUR-3 d. PUR-5 (19-21, 21-14, 15-10), CRC d. DOM (18-21, 21-17, 15-5), CAN d. TRI (21-15, 21-7), PUR-4 d. ESA (21-12, 21-18), PUR-2 d. GUA (19-21, 21-15, 15-6), CRC d. PUR-3 (21-15, 22-20), PUR-5 d. DOM (15-21, 21-17, 15-12), PUR-1 d. PUR-2 (21-11, 19-21, 15-13), CAN d. BAR (21-14, 21-11), PUR-4 d. USA (21-14, 21-13), DOM d. PUR-3 (19-21, 21-19, 15-11), CRC d. PUR-5 (21-11, 21-13), BAR d. TRI (21-18, 21-17), GUA d. PUR-1 (21-0, 21-0), ESA d. USA (22-20, 19-21, 15-11). Single Elimination Round: CAN (Bye), PUR-3 d. USA (21-18, 21-6), CRC (Bye), DOM d. ESA (21-18, 21-8), GUA d. PUR-5 (22-24, 21-16, 15-7), PUR-1 d. BAR (21-5, 21-13), PUR-2 d. TRI (21-6, 21-19), PUR-4 (Bye). Quarterfinals: PUR-3 d. CAN (23-21, 21-18), DOM d. CRC (21-14, 21-14), PUR-1 d. GUA (22-20, 21-17), PUR-2 d. PUR-4 (26-24, 19-21, 15-11). Semi finals: PUR-1 d. PUR-2 (21-13, 21-10), DOM d. PUR-3 (21-16, 21-17). Bronze Medal Match: PUR-2 d. PUR-3 (21-18, 17-21, 15-13). Gold Medal Match: PUR-1 d. DOM (21-14, 21-15).

Men

First Round: PUR-3 d. PUR-4 (22-20, 19-21, 16-14), DOM d. ESA (21-15, 21-19), USA d. SKN (21-16, 22-20), PUR-2 d. CAY (22-20, 21-15), CAN d. GUA (21-13, 21-18), PUR-3 d. DOM (21-19, 21-14), PUR-4 d. ESA (21-18, 21-13), CAN d. CRC (22-20, 21-13), BAR d. USA (21-16, 24-22), PUR-2 d. PUR-1 (21-19, 20-22, 15-13), PUR-3 d. ESA (21-19, 28-26), DOM d. PUR-4 (21-14, 18-21, 15-8), BAR d. SKN (21-19, 21-12), CRC d. GUA (21-11, 21-17), PUR-1 d. CAY (21-14, 21-15). Single Elimination Round: BAR (Bye), CRC d. SKN (21-14, 21-9), PUR-3 (Bye), USA d. GUA (21-19, 21-13), CAN (Bye), PUR-4 d. PUR-1 (14-21, 21-19, 15-8), DOM d. CAY (21-19, 21-19), PUR-2 d. ESA (18-21, 21-12, 15-11). Quarterfinals: CRC d. BAR (28-26, 15-21, 15-7), USA d. PUR-3 (21-15, 16-21, 15-13), PUR-4 d. CAN (21-18, 21-18), PUR-2 d. DOM (21-16, 21-19). Semi finals: USA d. CRC (22-20, 14-21, 15-12), PUR-2 d. PUR-4 (21-13, 14-21, 15-11). Bronze Medal Match: CRC d. PUR-4 (21-11, 21-17). Gold Medal Match: USA d. PUR-2 (21-15, 13-21, 15-12).

