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Dominican Republic and USA both seeking fourth crown

LIMA, Peru, June 20, 2015 – Defending champions Dominican Republic and United States will play for the gold medal of the fourteenth edition of the Women's Volleyball Pan American Cup on Sunday at Eduardo Dibos Coliseum of Lima.

Both teams have won the title on three occasions, one behind Cuba, who will play for the bronze medal with Argentina.

In Saturday's action, United States advanced by sweeping Cuba in three sets while Dominican Republic overcame Argentina in four frames.

At Miguel Grau Coliseum of Callao, Canada outplayed Colombia in four sets while Puerto Rico defeated Brazil also in four sets.

In the match for ninth place, Peru edged Mexico in five sets.

United States 3, Cuba 0

United States dispatched Cuba in straight sets 3-0 (25-17, 25-20, 25-22) booking a ticket to the gold medal match. The Americans topped their opponents in attacks (47-37), blocks (11-6) and service winners (5-4). Both teams committed 12 unforced errors. Erika Vansant led USA with 19 points seconded by Kristin Hildebrand with 11 points. Lauren Paolini and Cursty Jackson each contributed nine in the victory. Cuban Melissa Vargas finished with 19 points, including two more aces to establish the new record for the tournament with 27, while Jennifer Alvarez added 13.

Dominican Republic 3, Argentina 1
 Dominican Republic will face United States in the gold medal match following their semifinal 3-1 (25-23, 25-20, 23-25, 25-21) victory over Argentina. The Dominicans took the win despite giving away 35 points via unforced errors. Yonkaira Peña topped the scorers of the winning team with 19 points, followed



by Gina Mambru and Marianne Fersola with 16 markers apiece. Brayelin Martinez chipped in with 10 in the winning effort. Yamila Nizetich was the best for Argentina with 10 points while Lucia Fresco and Florencia Busquets each finished with 10 in the loss. The Dominicans held the advantage in blocks 13-8 with Fersola leading the way with four.

Canada 3, Colombia 1

Canada advanced to the match for fifth place by defeating Colombia 3-1 (25-20, 17-25, 25-19, 25-9). The taller Canadians outblocked the Colombians 15-7 and held a 6-1 margin in aces. They also had the advantage in attacks 47-37 and made fewer errors 24 to 28 by the opponents. Kyla Richey was the best scorer for the winning team with 15 points, followed by Tabhita Love with 13, three blocks included. Lucille Charuk had four blocks among her 12 points and Jaimie Thibault chipped in with 11, two blocks and two aces included. Amanda Coneo had 14 points for Colombia and Ivonne Montano added 10 in the loss.

Puerto Rico 3, Brazil 1

Puerto Rico will play Canada for fifth place following their 3-1 (19-25, 25-9, 25-21, 25-21) victory over

Brazil. After losing the first set the Puerto Ricans got their energy back and dominated the rest of the way leading in attacks 56-39, blocks 15-12 and aces 5-0. Stephanie Enright was the best offensive player for the winners with 17 points, including four blocks and one ace. Yarimar Rosa and Shirley Ferrer contributed 16 and 15 in the victory while Alexandra Oquendo and Sheila Ocasio concluded with 12 and 10, respectively. Lorene Geraldo and Karoline Tomena were the only Brazilians who finished in double digits in the scores with 13 and 12.

Peru 3, Mexico 2

Peru outplayed Mexico in a breath-taking victory in five sets 3-2 (25-22, 20-25, 25-20, 18-25, 17-15) in the match for ninth place. Mexico led in the blocking category 14-7 and also in aces 7-4 but also gave away 41 points via unforced errors compared to 25 by Peru. Coraima Gomez and Angela Leyva contributed 14 points in the victory while Mirtha Uribe and Raffella Camet added 12 and 10 points, respectively. Lizbeth Sainz and Andrea Rangel topped Mexico with 17 and 16 points, respectively. Alejandra Segura had 14 in the loss followed by Dulce Carranza and Karina Flores with 11 and 10.