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Cuban serves make it difficult for Uruguay

17/06/2015



Cuba rolled past Uruguay in straight sets 3-0 (25-16, 25-5, 25-20) for its third victory in Pool B at the Women's Volleyball Pan American Cup at Eduardo Dibos Coliseum on Tuesday. Uruguay team remained winless after four dates.

Cuba outclassed Uruguay in service winners 17-6 and in the blocking charts 16-0. The winners totaled 27 attacks to 13 by Uruguay.

Regla Gracia led Cuba with 20 points, six aces included, while Melissa Vargas added 13 with eight aces, and Sulian Matienzo contributed 11 markers, three aces and three blocks. Sofía Neves topped Uruguay with 9 points.

Vargas came up one ace short of equaling Nicole Branagh for the record of 9 aces in a match set by the American player in 2002. With 20 aces through four matches the young Cuban star is a serious threat for the record of total aces in a Pan Am Cup set by Mexican Ana Mercado with 25 in 2005.

The promising Vargas expressed her joy for being threatening the aces record and added: "I

feel good about the record but that's not something on my priorities. My goal is to continue supporting my team and I just feel happy about some positive results product of the strong training we go through."

Vargas, however, said her happiness was not complete due to the complications Cuba had against Uruguay. "We lost the focus in some important moments, we were overconfident and played the game of the opponents and that's something we can't repeat because tomorrow we play Canada which is a very strong rival."

Uruguay's captain Sabrina Olave was happy after watching her team come from behind improving its game. "We are very proud about the game we played because for moments we played at the same level with Cuba or at least we bother them a little. That's something that makes us happy to continue the process we came to start here in Peru."

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