

## [Volleyball](#)

# USA Women Go to Finals in Pan Am



Volleyball Blog

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## July 05, 2003

### USA Women Go to Finals in Pan American Cup

SALTILLO, Mexico – Sarah Noriega scored a match-high 27 points to lead five players in double figures as the U.S. women's national volleyball team advanced to the championship match of the Pan American Cup with a 3-1 win over Brazil at the Coahuila Convention Center Friday night. Noriega (Ulysses, Kan.) blasted 23 kills to go along with three blocks and one service ace in a 25-20, 22-25, 25-20, 25-16 semifinal victory for the United States, its second over Brazil in the tournament.

Nancy Metcalf (Hull, Iowa) added 17 points on 15 kills and two aces and had seven digs.

The United States will play the Dominican Republic—a 3-2 winner over Cuba—in Saturday night's championship match. Brazil and Cuba will battle for third place.

Team USA head coach Toshi Yoshida changed his lineup for Friday night's match, resting outside hitters Logan Tom (Salt Lake City, Utah) and Tara Cross-Battle (Houston, Texas) and middle blocker Danielle Scott (Baton Rouge, La.).

Middle blocker Erin Aldrich (Dallas, Texas), a 2000 Olympian as a high jumper in track and field, scored 13 points on a match-high seven blocks and six kills. Outside hitter Therese Crawford (Kalamazoo, Mich.) tallied 12 points on 11 kills and one ace to go along with 13 digs, while middle blocker Elisha Thomas (Grass Valley, Calif.) added 10 points on nine kills and one block.

Setter Lindsey Berg (Honolulu, Hawaii) and middle blocker Wiz Bachman (Farmington, Minn.) chipped in with three points apiece. Libero Stacy Sykora (Burlington, Texas) posted nine digs as the United States won its fourth-straight match to improve to 8-6 on the year.

Dayse Figueiredo scored a team-high 16 points on 13 kills, two blocks and one ace to lead Brazil, which also lost to the United States in pool play on June 30 (3-0). Joyce Silva added 10 points on seven kills and three blocks.

The Pan American Cup, comprised of teams from the NORCECA and South America volleyball confederations, serves as a qualifier for the 2004 FIVB World Grand Prix, the premier annual women's competition that features many of the best teams in the world. The top three NORCECA finishers and the top South American team at the Pan American Cup qualify for next year's Grand Prix.

The United States qualified for the 2004 FIVB World Grand Prix by sweeping Canada in the pool-play finale on July 2. Cuba and Dominican Republic also qualified from NORCECA, while Brazil will be the South American representative.

NOTE: USA-Brazil boxscore is attached.

Pan American Cup

Final Pool Play Standings

Pool A USA (3-0) Brazil (2-1) Canada (1-2) Puerto Rico (0-3)

Pool B Cuba (3-0) Dominican Republic (2-1) Venezuela (1-2) Mexico (0-3)

Thursday's Results

Seventh-Place Match Puerto Rico def. Mexico, 3-1

Quarterfinals Brazil def. Venezuela, 3-0 Dominican Republic def. Canada, 3-0

Friday's Results

Fifth-Place Match Venezuela def. Canada, 3-1

Semifinals USA def. Brazil, 3-1 Dominican Republic def. Cuba, 3-2

Saturday's Schedule

Third-Place Match Brazil vs. Cuba, 6 p.m.

Championship Match Dominican Republic vs. USA, 8 p.m.

(Times Listed are Central Daylight Time)

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