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Cuban Baseball: Granma achieve First Win in the Grand Final

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HAVANA, Cuba, Jan 24 (acn) Granma beat at home 10-6 Las Tunas, thus achieving their first win in the grand final of the 57th Cuban National Baseball Series.

Carlos Marti, manager of the winning side, said this is a very important win, as prior to this game, they were losing the series 0-2 and achieving a third loss would be an almost definitively blow to his team.

Granma, current monarch, amounted 17 hits, including a 3-run homer by 3B Raul Gonzalez off Vladimir Baños, who earned the loss when allowing six runs and five hits in only a third of an inning.

Seven out of the nine members of Granma's starting line-up scored a multi-hit game, with highlight to CF Roel Santos and 2B Carlos Benitez, who batted three singles each, in addition to Gonzalez, who made it 2 for 5, with double, homerun and four RBIs.

Las Tunas also did it well offensively when batting 13 hits, including homers by 1B Rafael Viñales, DH Danel Castro and 3B Yordanis Alarcon.

The win went to starter Alain Sanchez despite surrendering five runs and nine hits in 6.2 innings, with three strikeouts and same amount of walks.

With Las Tunas ahead 2-1, the fourth match of the final will be today, and left-hander Luis Angel Gomez will

be Las Tunas' starting pitcher, while ace Lazaro Blanco, loser of the initial game, will be his opponent.

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