



BASKETBALL

International Basketball Tournament

For the last 22 years, the town of La Orotava has been the international focus of young basketball players during the last week of September when the best players in the U-16 teams meet to compete against each other.

This year, the International Basketball Tournament will be held from September 26 to 29. The Colegio Salesianos-San Isidro will be the venue for most of the matches, with the exception of two which will be held at the Pabellón Quiquirá. This year, Group A will feature the teams Real Madrid Baloncesto, the Zalgiris Kaunas School from Lithuania, Valencia Basket and Club Baloncesto San Isidro. Group B will include Stella Azzurra from the Basketball Academy in Rome, Canterbury Academy from Gran Canaria,



Presentation of the international U-16 tournament

Iberostar Canarias and Vilnius BS from Lithuania.

Each of the two group winners will go on to the semi-finals which will take place on Saturday at 6pm and 8pm. On Sunday, the fight for places will take place, for the bronze at 4.30pm and the grand triples match at 6.15pm, culmi-

nating with the grand final at 7pm. During the presentation of the tournament, local Mayor Francisco Linares once again emphasised how important this event is for young sportsmen and women and what an international reputation the tournament has achieved. More than 3,000 players and around

5,000 visitors, as well as athletes who later played in international leagues, all testify to this. He was however, disappointed by the fact that representatives of the Canary Island Government, Island Council and the public Canarian television station failed to attend the presentation. ■

MENTAL EXERCISE

International Mind Sports Olympiad

The five young thinkers Mario Hernández Concepción, Héctor Fonte Guerra, Víctor Espinosa, Noa Concepción and Víctor Hernández took part in the 23rd International Mind Sports Olympiad in London in August and returned to La Palma with great success.

The quintet won a total of 40 medals, which is nine more than last year. Among them two first places in the categories Junior and Feminine as well as a second place in the general classification of abstract and modern games. All in all, the delegation from La Palma competed against players from all over the world. Representatives from 70 countries went to London to compete in the age groups of adults and juniors. The games were Duel Strategy, Classic Strategy, Domino 3&5, Catan, Blokus, Trench, Monopoly and Carcassonne among others.

At home, the successful thinkers from La Palma were welcomed and congratulated by President Mariano H. Zapata, Vice-President Anselmo Pestana and Education Councillor Susana Machín. They were interested in hearing about the experiences they enjoyed in London, as well as in their way of training, their motivation and their plans for the future. The five are members of the Aprender Jugando collective (Learn by playing group), supported by the Island Council and the boroughs of Breña Baja, Breña Alta, Los Llanos de Aridane and Villa de Mazo, as well as private companies. ■



Five clever minds represented La Palma at the IMSO

SHOOTING

Master in clay pigeon shooting

On the second weekend of September, the Canarian clay pigeon shooting championship was held at the Ravelo shooting club.

The representatives of the shooting club El Picacho at Barranco Hondo came home with two winning titles. Pedro Jiménez



Canarian master Pedro Jiménez

became Canarian Champion in the Olympic trap and his team mate Héctor González in the second category in the same group. Mayor María Concepción Brito and Sports Councillor Manuel González congratulated the two shooters on their successes. ■



Marisa is happy about her silver medal

Marisa Isabel Pérez Belloch from La Laguna became the European Sub-Champion at the XXI Master European Championships in Venice in the category 5,000 metres M40.

She managed the course in a time of 25.32 minutes and only had to admit defeat to the local heroine Rosetta La Delfa. She fought hard until the end, because a Hungarian

colleague was following hard on her heels. "I had to keep the Hungarian under control. She was so close to me that she challenged me for second place. We fought to the end, but in the end I crossed the finish line seven seconds ahead of her" said the Canarian athlete happily. "I'm very happy. It's one more medal for my collection and the first European

ATHLETICS

La Laguna: European Sub-Champion

gong in a competition that was held at a very high level" she adds. Marisa has proved once again that she is in top form at the moment and is not easy to stop.

The Tenerife athlete forms part of the 337-strong Spanish national team, which competes against 43 countries. With this victory Marisa's triumph in Venice was not yet over as a little later she climbed the podium again in Venice. This time she won the bronze medal for 10 kilometres with a time of 48.56 min-

utes. From the starting signal on, she held on to the third position, while before her the German Bianca Schenker and the Italian Rosetta La Delfa fought for the gold and silver medal. "It was a tough competition, mainly because of the heat and bad road conditions. There were a lot of bumps and cracks. But I am satisfied, I can pack my bags and go home and give my body the rest it needs now" explained the Tenerife athlete, who was proudly awaited on the island by friends and family. ■



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