WJUC
LECCO, ITALY
SAT 26 JUL 2014
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Leah Farris (United States) gets the D vs. Colombia
photo by Brandon Wu (UltiPhotos.com)
CHEERLEADERS & FINALS

“Rainbow Cheer” is a cheerleading team formed in Borgosesia in 2010. Since 2011 we have competed at Italian Nationals, qualifying for the “ECU European Cheerleading Championship” for three years, in Prague (2011), Glasgow (2012), and Bonn (2014). The team currently consists of around 14 athletes (girls and boys), aged between 16 and 35. In this sport, every member has a specific role to create group stunts, each comprising 4-5 people: two bases, one back-spotter and a flyer. Our main routine is “Senior Coed” (mixed: boys and girls), and is divided into different parts: acrobatic jumps, dance, standing and running, tumbling, acrobatic stunts where flyers create arm and leg motions standing on base and spotter arms, human pyramids, basket tosses where flyer toss in the air doing acrobatic motions, all accompanied by the music. At the beginning of the routine we have a little chant, where each athlete cheers, the public chanting the name of the team and their uniform colours, using voice, gestures, pom-poms, arm motions and stunt elements. Another routine is the 1-minute “Coed Group stunt”, comprising 4-5 athletes, where bases, back-spotter and flyer perform continuous stunt and basket elements. Our “Partner Stunt” division comprises just two people, where flyers perform only stunt elements standing on the hands of one main base. In cheerleading we have also a “Cheer Dance” division, where girls dance with pom-poms in a choreography consisting of dance skills, visual effects and synchronization.

LIVE STREAMING SCHEDULE
SATURDAY 7/26

11:15  Austria vs. Great Britain*  U17 Open Final
14:00  Canada vs. United States  Women’s Final
17:00  Canada vs. United States  Open Final

All times in Central European Time Zone
* Free Stream

VISIT WWW.SKYDMAGAZINE.COM TO ACCESS.
As the sun came up on a calm Friday morning, four teams remained in contention for three medals. In one semifinal, the United States continued its run with another dominant win, beating Italy 17-6.

In the other semifinal, Canada jumped out to an early lead on Germany, as Germany’s previously smooth offense faltered. Germany’s switch to zone and junk defenses was able to slow down Canada, as Germany tied the game 5-5. The game stayed close until half, when Canada stepped up their defensive pressure and went on a run to win the game 17-9.

In the bronze medal game, Italy and Germany fought to a draw in the first half. In the second half, Italy ran out of gas and the result would be the same as the previous meeting between the teams. Germany claimed the bronze medal with a 17-11 victory.

The finals between the United States and Canada will be streamed live on SkydMagazine.com at 5:00pm.
SPECIAL CONTENT  SERVED DAILY

PLAYE R SPOTLIGHT

““The coolest thing was the swimming in Lago di Lecco with our team, which I think really built up our team spirit. I feel like it brought a lot of peace and discipline into the team since the guys finally had a chance to see who the alpha male of the group was.”

Dominik Hass, CZECH REPUBLIC

Germany vs. Colombia

photo by Kevin Leclaire (UltiPhotos.com)

WOMEN’S

Japan women

Photo by Kevin Leclaire (UltiPhotos.com)
Friday was another hot day in Lecco and for most of the women’s teams also the last day to influence their final position at this tournament. The quarterfinals were scheduled for 9:30 but had to be postponed till 10 o’clock due to electricity blackout. Canada gave no chance to Japan and snatched their spot in the semis 17-3. The spectators witnessed a similar situation in the second quarterfinal, where the US team dominated yet again beating Russia 17-2.

Germany wasn’t going to give up too easily against Colombia and had a lot of support from their fans and parents. The Germans fed Colombia their own medicine with tight defense and great long throws, and stayed down by two until 9-11. Eventually Colombia didn’t let their chance slip away and took the game 17-14.

The most exciting quarterfinal was streamed by Skyd and featured Austria and Italy. The Austrians had a slow start and had to come with their best game to draw level at 8-8. After a timeout, the Italians seemed mentally down allowing Austria to take halftime. The next point went to Austria as well and Italy wasn’t able to recover. The game finished 16-13 and Austria advanced to the semis as the only European team.

Even though Colombia and Austria were looking to challenge the North Americans in the semifinals, either one wasn’t able to surprise and the games ended 17-4 and 17-5. USA and Canada are deserving of being unbeaten. Their athleticism, advanced throwing skills and well-prepared tactics, all topped off with great team spirit, are once again proving the superiority of North American Ultimate. It will surely be an exciting final today - make sure to watch the stream at 2:00 pm at SkydMagazine.com.

Friday Recap
by Ráchel Tošnerová

It’s a shame that we couldn’t play all the matches, because of bad weather conditions. But I think coming here was a great idea, we’ve gained lots of experience from both - the matches we lost and the ones we won. It was great fun and it’s sad that I won’t be able to play under 19 anymore, ’cause I’ll be too old.”