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Uganda chase perfection as USA aim for last word

Final Say. The Victoria Pearls have already sealed the Easter Women's T20 Cup, but today's clash against USA at Entebbe Oval offers something deeper — a statement finish, a test of character, and a fitting finale to a tournament built on growth, resilience and emerging excellence.

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EASTER WOMEN'S T20 CUP

Today's fixture

Uganda vs. USA, 2pm - Entebbe

The lakeside calm of Entebbe Oval will this afternoon host a contest that feels bigger than the scoreboard. Uganda's Victoria Pearls, unbeaten and already crowned champions of the Easter Women's T20 Cup, return for one final dance against USA — a side still searching for answers, but not without fight.

What began as a modest tri-series — initially supposed to feature Nepal before travel disruptions intervened — has evolved into a revealing showcase of Uganda's depth, discipline and direction.

Unbeaten authority

The numbers tell a story of dominance. Five wins from six matches, one no-result, and a commanding Net Run Rate of 2.04 underline Uganda's superiority. But beyond statistics lies a team rediscovering rhythm after months away from competitive cricket. From the very first day, Uganda set the tone. A one-run thriller

against USA ignited the campaign — a match defined by nerve and the brilliance of Slow Left Arm Orthodox spinner Sarah Akiteng, whose four-wicket spell turned the tide. That narrow escape was followed by emphatic wins, including a crushing 65-run demolition of the Americans and consistent victories over Uganda A.

Akiteng spark

At the heart of it all has been Akiteng. Thirteen wickets, multiple Player of the Match awards, and a tournament-leading MVP tally of 386 points paint the picture of a bowler operating at peak confidence. Around her, Immaculate Nakisuryi (94 runs), Rita Musamali (92 runs), Stephanie Nampiina (90) and Esther Iloku (85 runs) have provided batting stability — even as the top order continues to search for fluency. That, perhaps, is the only lingering concern for head coaches Deus Muhumuza and Brian Masaba.

Lessons in rotation

The tournament has not just been about results. With Uganda A in the mix, the series became a testing ground for combinations and succession planning. Players rotated, roles shifted, and young pros-

Golden Spells. Left arm spinner Akiteng has wreaked havoc with 13 wickets. On the left is Nampiina who has embraced her role as an opening bat. PHOTOS/JOHN BATANUDDE

RESULTS THUS FAR

Uganda 103/5 USA 102/8
Uganda won by 1 run
Uganda 100/10 Uganda A 46
Uganda won by 51 runs
Uganda vs. Uganda A
No Result (Rain)
USA 107/7 Uganda A 87/7
USA won by 20 runs
Uganda 93/6 Uganda A 54/1
Uganda won by 39 runs
Uganda 124/6 USA 59/10
Uganda won by 65 runs
USA 36/2 Uganda A 16/2
USA won by 20 runs
Uganda 115/5 Uganda A 78
Uganda won by 37 runs

pects have been given exposure as a deliberate effort to strengthen the national pipeline.

Uganda A finished their games without victory on the ground, but far from empty-handed. Their struggles — particularly with batting consistency — have highlighted gaps, but also offered clarity in rebuilding a competitive second tier.

American response

For USA, the journey has been mixed.

Two wins from four matches show glimpses of promise, but heavy defeats against Uganda exposed the gulf in execution. Yet their resilience remains evident — particularly in their historic opening clash, where they fell just one run short.

Captain Aditiba Chudasama (3 wickets) has led from the front, contributing both with bat and ball, and will be central again today.

Finale feel

And so, the final fixture arrives with layers of meaning.

Uganda will seek perfection — an unbeaten campaign sealed with authority. The coaches will demand sharper batting, cleaner execution, and one last complete performance.

USA, meanwhile, will see opportunity — a final chance to upset the champions before heading home for the ICC Women's Challenge Trophy.

With the U.S. Ambassador William Popp expected at the ground and a lively crowd anticipated, Entebbe Oval is set for a fitting conclusion.

