



## ***Canada And Team USA To Meet For World Crown; Jason Taylor And Emmitt Smith To Attend Championship Game***

**Canada** will defend the NFL Global Junior Championship title that has been held north of the border the past two years when the 11th annual Super Bowl event finale is played at Lockhart Stadium in Fort Lauderdale on Saturday, February 3 at 3pm. A familiar foe stands between the Canadians and a third successive crown. **Team USA**, representing the South Florida high schools of Broward and Miami-Dade counties under head coach Mark Guandolo, hope to wrestle the championship from Canada's grasp.

NFL Defensive Player of the Year **Jason Taylor** will perform the coin toss at 3pm and former Dallas Cowboys and University of Florida running back **Emmitt Smith** will watch the game.

Both teams went undefeated in first round action on Wednesday. Canada brushed aside France 14-0 thanks to two rushing touchdowns from Anthony Woodson and then produced a narrow 7-0 victory over a spirited Japan team through a two-yard rush by Edem Nyamadi.

Team USA brushed Panama aside 27-0 as Frederick Bruno of Miami Springs high school, Justin Lee from Boyd Anderson, Kenny Mantuo of Cypress Bay and Western's Junior Allen all scored on the ground. But in the winner takes all game against Mexico, who had beaten Panama 6-0 through two Adrian Incapie field goals, they dived with elimination.

A safety earned Team USA a 2-0 halftime lead and Mexico drove close to potential game-winning field goal range before turning the ball over on downs. USA opened a nine-point cushion when Lee raced in again for his second touchdown of the evening, then Anthony Gaitor of Miami Northwestern returned an interception 96yards for a touchdown.

Coach Guandolo said of opponent Canada: "They're well coached and they've been together for a while and I expect another great game. They're big and physical and we'll have to use our speed and allow for them to pound us a little bit. We came out today with some intensity and emotion and seemed to come together and play hard for each other."

Japan and Mexico will contest third place at 11.30am in a repeat of last year's match up. Japan blasted 24 unanswered points against France to open Wednesday's games and were full of confidence going into the close 7-0 loss to Canada. Quarterback Hiroshi Matsuda threw pinpoint touchdown passes to receivers Naohiko Shibata and Takashi Kurihara, then Naosuke Kikkawa took a fumble recovery into the end zone and Takaaki Muraoka burst in to complete the rout.

France and Panama will kick off Saturday's medal rounds at 8.30pm, followed by the Mexico-Japan match up at 11.30pm. Media buses leave the Media Center for Lockhart Stadium at 7.30am and 1pm on Saturday.

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