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STORY HEADLINE: WEIGHTLIFTER KAREN MARAGARYAN WINS FIRST ARMENIAN GOLD OF YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES BUENOS AIRES 2018

DATE: 11 October, 2018
LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina
LANGUAGE: English, Armenian, Tunisian.

Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: http://iocnewsroom.com

STORY SCRIPT:

Armenia won its first gold medal of the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018. Seventeen year old Karen Margaryan was the most consistent weightlifter in the 77kg category. The current European Junior Champion’s final lift of 168 kilos in the Clean and Jerk was enough to seal victory.

In the same fashion, Ghofrane Belkhir won Tunisia’s first gold medal at Buenos Aires 2018 on Thursday in the ‘Europe Pavilion’ of the Youth Olympic Park.

Ghofrane, who’s 17, narrowly sealed victory in the 58kg category with a final lift in the Clean and Jerk section of 108 kilos.

Egypt’s Neama Said managed 107 kilos with her final lift so was forced to settle for silver. Peyton Brown of the USA won bronze.

For the Weightlifting competition at the Games each category event consists of two parts, the Snatch and the Clean and Jerk with generally a ten minute break between the two. The best results achieved (in Kilograms) are added to a total, which determines the athletes’ ranking.

Buenos Aires 2018 is the third edition of the Summer Youth Olympic Games (YOG) to be held, bringing together the world’s best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of males and females competing in the 32-sport programme.

Almost 4,000 athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees will be competing for 1,250 medals. The Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 feature new sports and many new disciplines and events, reflecting the passions of the ‘Game Changers’, a new generation of athletes and fans.
The event offers a glimpse into the future of the Games as the new programme will introduce several innovations that will be replicated at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The first Summer Youth Olympic Games took place in Singapore in 2010. The second edition was held in the Chinese city of Nanjing in 2014.

SHOTLIST:
00:04 Karen Margaryan coming up on the stage.
00:11 Karen Margaryan clean and jerk.
00:33 Karen Margaryan celebrates his lift.
00:36 Karen Margaryan receiving his medal.
00:44 SOUNDBITE: Karen Margaryan, Men’s 77kg Champion (Armenian Language)

"Կարեն Մարգարյան- «Իմ հաղթանակի անիշնություն ոչ միայն մարզիկ, այլև միայն գնա ոչ միայն մեդալ,»
I dedicate my victory to my Armenian nation- My dear mother I dedicate this to you.

00:50 Neama Said clean and jerk and celebration.
01:17 SOUNDBITE: Neama Said, Women’s 58kg Champion (Tunisian Language)

الفهد أنا الأمل أنا النصر والرقيبة للعالم لله الحمد على كل الشعب أنا أثرد فيها بالرسمى
"Thank god I raised my country's flag and made everybody happy. I... am really happy and I really can't even describe my happiness right now.

01:26 Naema Said holds aloft her gold medal
01:28 The Tunisian flag is raised.
01:31 The medalists hold their gold medals on the podium.

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