Story HEADLINE: MAITE BEERNAERT (BEL), MELANY DEL PILAR MATHEUS MOREJON (CUB) AND LUIS ANTONIO AVILES FERREIRO (MEX) ENJOY FIRST DAY ATHLETICS GOLD AT BUENOS AIRES 2018

DATE: 14 October, 2018
LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina
LANGUAGE: English, Flemish, Spanish

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STORY SCRIPT:

In the women’s Long Jump, Belgium’s Maite Beernaert dramatically took gold with her final jump of the afternoon at Buenos Aires 2018.

Chasing Klaudia Endrez’s 6.26m, Beernaert jumped from 5.87m in her third attempt to 6.31m with her fourth and final attempt to snatch top spot on the podium from the Hungarian.

Producing a personal best 6.20m, Austria’s Ingeborg Gruenwald took bronze.

In an equally tight affair, Cuban athlete Melany del Pilar Matheus Morejon saw gold when she won the women’s Discus Throw 1kg.

She threw a distance of 54.95m with her third of four attempts to clinch the gold medal, and admitted that while she had been confident ahead of the competition, she knew that she was up against some talented athletes.

The silver medal went to Violetta Ignatyeva of Russia who produced a best throw of 54.32m - well clear of bronze medalist Alida van Daalen of the Netherlands and her best of 53.07m.

Heading to the track, men’s 400m gold went to Mexico’s Luis Antonio Aviles Ferreiro by yet another tight margin.

Racing twice and combining the two times to determine the medal spots, the Mexican’s total time of 1:34.23 - with a best time of 46.78 - was enough to narrowly finish ahead of Zambia’s Kennedy Luchembe who ended with 1:34.34.

Completing the podium the USA’s Nicholas Ramey finished second and third in his two races to claim bronze in a time of 1:34.87.
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:

00:02 Multiple action shots of Men's 400m
00:17 Mexican Men's 400m Champion, Luis Antonio Aviles Ferreiro, celebrating
00:22 Shot of the winner being awarded his gold medal
00:30 Shot of Aviles Ferreiro listening to the Mexican anthem
00:34 Shot of the flags
00:37 Wide shot of the medalists posing for a photo
00:40 Close up of the Gold medal

00:42 SOUNDBITE: Luis Antonio Aviles Ferreiro, Mexico, Gold medal Men's 400m (Spanish Language)
“Si. Son varios años de entrenamiento. Creo que todo esfuerzo tiene su recompensa. Durante la etapa de preparación se pierde muchos momentos, se pierde muchos momentos familiares, muchos momentos importantes, muchos cumpleaños, muchas actividades en familia y con amigos, por estar entrenando. Pero al fin de cuentas creo que es un sacrificio que vale la pena. Estar en el podio en lo mas alto, es algo inexplicable, es algo que solo se vive una vez. Y bueno estoy muy orgulloso de lo que he logrado hoy. Este es un triunfo para todo mi país.”

Yes, it's several years of training. I believe that every effort has its reward. During the preparation stage many moments are lost, many family moments that is the most important, many birthdays, many family and friends activities lost for training. But in the end, I think it's a worthwhile sacrifice. Climbing the podium at the top is something inexplicable, it is something that only happens once. And I am very proud of what I have achieved today, this is a triumph for my whole country.

01:17 Action shot of the Cuban Women's Discus Throw 1kg Gold medal, Melany Matheus Morejon
01:25 Shot of the winner being awarded his gold medal
01:34 Wide shot of the medalists posing for a photo

01:41 SOUNDBITE: Melany Matheus Morejon, Cuba, Gold medal Women's Discus Throw 1kg (Spanish Language)
“No, muy orgullosa. Me siento muy contenta con el resultado. Y al escuchar la nota de mi himno nacional, me emocione bastante. Porque es la primera vez que se oye en un estadio de atletismo.”

I’m very proud, I feel very happy with the result and when listening to my national anthem, I was quite excited because it is the first time that it was heard in the athletics stadium.

01:51 Action shot of the Belgium Women’s Long Jump Gold medal, Maite Beernaert
01:59 Slow motion of Beernaert during action
02:01 Shot of Belgium champion celebrating
02:06 Shot of the winner being awarded his gold medal
02:15 Wide shot of the medalists posing for a photo

02:23 SOUNDBITE: Maite Beernaert, Belgium, Women’s Long Jump Gold medal (Flemish Language)

“Ja, het is een hele eer om hier eerste te zijn. Ik hoop dat ik hierdoor meer gemotiveerd ben om te trainen en dat zal zeker zo zijn. En ik droom ervan om ooit op de Olympische Spelen te staan.”

Yes, it’s an honor to win first place here. I hope this motivates me to practise more, but I’m sure it will. My dream is to someday participate in the Olympics.

-- ENDS --

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