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STORY HEADLINE: JAPAN'S TAKERU KITAZONO CLAIMS FOURTH AND FIFTH GOLD MEDALS OF YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES BUENOS AIRES 2018

DATE: 15 October, 2018

LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina

LANGUAGE: English, Mandarin, Japanese, Italian

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

STORY SCRIPT:

Takeru Kitazono has won his fourth and fifth gold medals at Buenos Aires 2018 in Artistic Gymnastics.

The 15-year-old first added to his medal haul by storming to Parallel Bars gold, executing a 5.500 difficulty routine with a score of 8.666 - the highest of the night - to finish with an unbeatable 14.166.

China's Dehang Yin and Russia's Sergei Naidin were left to take silver and bronze respectively.

Rounding off a successful Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Argentina for the gymnast, Kitazono headed the leaderboard in the Horizontal Bars. Producing the most difficult routine of all the competitors to take an execution score of 8.566, he once again claimed gold with an overall score of 13.566.

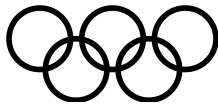
Unable to beat the Japanese athlete, Diogo Soares of Brazil took silver with Hungary's Krisztian Balazs completing the podium with bronze.

Elsewhere, Zijng Tang added to the bronze she won in the Uneven Bars by finishing top in the Balance Beam. A routine ranked at 5.900 for difficulty produced an execution score 8.133 to top the table with a final score of 14.033.

Kseniia Klimenka of Russia had to settle for silver with 13.533 whilst Great Britain's Amelie Morgan snatched bronze with 13.033.

Concluding the Artistic Gymnastics medals, Floor Exercise gold went to Giorgia Villa. The Italian already had Vault and All-Around gold as well as Uneven Bars silver, but finished with a total of 13.300 to finish top once again.

Amelie Morgan rose one place up the podium to win silver with 13.233 with Ukraine's Anastasiia Bachynska concluding the top three.



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 Action of Xijing Tang during her Gold medal winning Beam routine

00:23 Tang celebrates with her coach

00:31 Tang receiving her Gold medal

00:38 SOUNDBITE Xijing Tang, Youth Olympic Artistic Gymnastics Beam Champion (Mandarin Language)

“平衡木，我觉得平衡木就是得要靠练才能出来成绩。要是不练的话，就不一定会拿到成绩的，因为比赛这个项目特别好练，但是不好比，因为一紧张就会掉下10公分的器界。”

For balance beam... I think you must practice more to get good results. If you don't practice much, you won't necessarily get any results. It's very easy to practice, but it's really not easy to get good results in a real competition, because when you are nervous you may fall off from a beam which is only 10 cm wide.

00:55 Close up of the Women's Artistic Gymnastics Beam podium

01:01 SOUNDBITE Xijing Tang, Youth Olympic Artistic Gymnastics Beam Champion (Mandarin Language)

“其实也还好，因为毕竟自己也努力了，每个项目都尽自己最大的努力去发挥了。”

Actually, I think it's okay, because I've tried my best. I've tried every effort to finish each item.

01:12 Action of Kitazono's winning Parallel Bars routine

01:37 Kitazono is congratulated for his routine

01:44 Action of winner Kitazono's High Bar routine

02:06 Kitazono being congratulated for his routine

02:11 The Five time Youth Olympic Champion waves to fans in the crowd.

02:15 Kitazono receives his Gold medal

02:23 Close up of Kitazono on the podium

02:25 Close up of the Flags rising

02:29 SOUNDBITE: Giorgia Villa, Youth Olympic Artistic Gymnastics All-Around, Vault and Floor Champion (Italian Language)



"Tanto tanto tempo, tanti sacrifici tanto lavoro e son molto contenta del risultato."

I have made many sacrifices and put in so much work and time. I'm very happy with the result.

02:37 Kitazono poses for his picture on the podium

02:43 SOUNDBITE: Giorgia Villa, Youth Olympic Artistic Gymnastics All-Around, Vault and Floor Champion (Italian Language)

"Allora quella che mi piace di più è quella del all around, e quella che mi è costata di più è stata quella della parallele perchè fino all'ultimo non si sapeva come poteva andare a finire però sono molto contenta."

The best one for me was the All-Around competition. The hardest one was the Uneven Bars because until the end we did not know how it could end up. I'm very happy.

02:55 Action from Giorgia Villa's winning Floor routine

03:19 Villa is congratulated by other athletes

03:24 Villa receives her third Gold medal of the games

03:31 SOUNDBITE. Takeru Kitazono, Youth Olympic Artistic Gymnastics Five Time Champion. (Japanese Language)

"はい、すごく嬉しくて、これからもっと頑張ろうと思いました。"

Yes, I feel fantastic, and I will keep moving forward.

03:37 The Floor medallists pose on the podium

03:42 SOUNDBITE. Takeru Kitazono, Youth Olympic Artistic Gymnastics Five Time Champion. (Japanese Language)

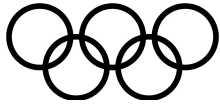
"やっぱり、思ってたなくて、すごいやる前に皆さん応援してくださって、すごくいい気持ちで演技することができました。"

I didn't think about anything, and I just performed with focus and ease, as my fans have been here early before it started.

-- ENDS --

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