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Story Script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: Colombian cruiser Maud Davis Crossland looking to make an impact in the Bobsleigh

LOCATION: St Moritz, Switzerland.

DATE: January 13, 2020

LANGUAGE: English/Spanish

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

STORY SCRIPT:

When you talk about countries that excel in winter sports, Colombia rarely merits a mention.

The South American nation didn't make its Winter Olympic debut until 2010, and over the two Games it has featured in - Vancouver 2010 and PyeongChang 2018 - just four athletes have competed.

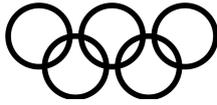
So by comparison, the Winter Youth Olympic Games Lausanne 2020 has an impressive Colombian contingent.

Speedskater Diego Amaya Martinez just missed out on a podium spot in the men's 500 metres speed skating after finishing in fourth place.

And while medal glory is likely to be a step too far for monobob competitor Maud Davis Crossland, she is delighted to be competing in the sport that she loves on the international stage.

Coached by Colombia's 2018 Cross Country winter Olympian Sebastian Uprimny, Crossland only took up the sport in 2019 after her family relocated from Colombia to Salt Lake City in Utah, home of the 2002 Olympics.

But while admitting that she knew little about it ahead of time, Crossland is relishing the opportunity that she has in St Moritz - not least the notoriety of representing Colombia here.



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A keen soccer player and athlete, Crossland believes that both other sports have served her well in improving her ability in the bobsleigh.

With several athletes able to call on far greater experience, including a couple of Swiss competitors who have plenty of experience on this specific track, Crossland isn't expecting to be among the medallists here.

Regardless, she has made improvements on each of her four practice runs so far, and hopes that her performances can encourage others to give the sport a try.

Lausanne 2020 is the third edition of the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG), bringing together the world's best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Winter Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of male and female competitors in the 81 medal events.

1,872 athletes from 79 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) will be in action in Lausanne, 12 of those NOCs for the first time at a Youth Olympic Games - Albania, Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Haiti, Hong Kong (China), Kosovo, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Trinidad & Tobago..

Lausanne 2020 features five new events, Women's Nordic Combined, Individual Normal Hill/4km, Women's Doubles Luge, Ice Hockey Mixed NOC 3x3 Tournament, Freeski Big Air, Snowboard Big Air. One new sport has also been added to the programme, Ski Mountaineering that includes five events: Women's and Men's Individual, Women's and Men's Sprint and Mixed NOC Relay.

The first Winter Youth Olympic Games took place in Innsbruck in 2012. The second edition was held in the Norwegian city of Lillehammer in 2016.

SHOTLIST: St Moritz Olympia Bob Run, St Moritz, Switzerland

00:05 Close up of Lausanne 2020 flag

00:10 GVs of the area

00:22 Maud Davis Crossland at the top of the run

00:32 **SOUNDBITE: Maud Davis Crossland, Colombia. Women's Monobob (Spanish Language).**

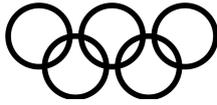
"I started the bobsleigh because my Dad knew my coach. He did the Olympic Games in 2018 in cross country skiing and he introduced me to the bobsleigh. I really loved it and it's my first season."

00:52 Maud Davis Crossland prepares for her fourth practice run

01:03 **SOUNDBITE: Maud Davis Crossland, Colombia. Women's Monobob (English Language).**

"I mean I think it's a cool opportunity and that's my biggest thing, and also why I go into it, and representing a country that I grew up in and that I love. And there's not very many people (bobsleighters) like you said, so it's cool. I watched the other Colombian athlete (Diego Amaya Martinez) and it was very surprising, everyone is surprised that I'm from Colombia when I'm here."

01:27 Davis Crossland starting her fourth practice run



01:35 **SOUNDBITE: Maud Davis Crossland, Colombia. Women's Monobob (English Language).**

"During the winter I do this and then in spring I go back to track. And they all kind of help each other out. So track workouts help with bobsleigh pushing and stuff like that."

01:46 Davis Crossland with her coach and father after training

01:56 **SOUNDBITE: Maud Davis Crossland, Colombia. Women's Monobob (English Language).**

"Good. I'm still, compared to everyone else, real beginner level. This is a lot of people's home track also and there were training days earlier so this is my third and fourth runs now down this track. As I said, it's very different so it's very quick and kind of tricky in some areas but overall it's fun to get used to and to try something new."

02:21 Davis Crossland with her coach and father

02:30 Close up Davis Crossland

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