

DAY 1 - August 29, 2011

Latest News

WEIGHTLIFTING INSTITUTE IN FULL SWING



As the Pacific Games have already started, the Oceania Weightlifting Institute is now in full swing with lifters from the 18 competing countries training. Many VIP's are visiting the Institute daily.

Today, the VIP's being His Excellency, Marcus Stephen the President of the Republic of Nauru, and the Minister for Sport of the French Republic Chantal Jouanno. Accompanying the Minister were many dignitaries, including Mr. Eric Gay, Mayor of the City of Mont Dore where the Institute is situated. The President of the New Caledonia Olympic Committee (CTOS) Mr. Charles Cali. The President of ONOC and IOC member, Dr. Robin Mitchell (Fiji). The President of the Pacific Games Council, Mr. Vidhya Lakhan (Fiji). Also many government officials from France and New Caledonia.

Chantal Jouanno, Minister for Sport of the French Republic.

The Minister of Sport, was very impressed with the Institute set up and she was pleased also to meet the Institute lifters and other lifters from other countries presently training in preparation for the weightlifting event.

The Institute earlier in the day also had a visit from the Governor General of Tuvalu H.E. Lakopa Italeli and the Minister for Education Youth and Sport of Tuvalu the Hon. Dr Falesa Pitoi. In addition to this, the Institute was also visited by the Solomon Island Olympic Committee President, Mr. Fred Maetoloa and the CEO of the S.I. National Sports Council Mr. David Firisua.



The Oceania Weightlifting Institute



The French Minister for Sport arrives at the Institute at the same time with H.E. Marcus Stephen, President of Nauru.



The Minister Chantal Jouanno meets the volunteers at the Institute



Paul Coffa Institute Director with H.E. Marcus Stephen, the French Republic Minister for Sport Chantal Jouanno and Mr Charles Cali, President of the New Caledonia Olympic Committee (CTOS)



Itte Detenamo the super-heavyweight champion from Nauru meets the Minister.



The Minister meets the Tonga weightlifting team



Itte Detenamo was asked to do a few lifts for the VIP guests, even though he had no lifting shoes with him he managed to lift with no shoes.



The guests enjoyed the short exhibition of lifting by Itte.



From left : Jean Claude Briault Minister of Youth and Sport of New Caledonia, Ronald Frere President of New Caledonia weightlifting, The Minister for Sport Chantal Jouanno, H.E. Marcus Stephen, The Mayor of Mont Dore Mr Eric Gay , the Gen.Sec of the OWF Paul Coffa , Mr Alain Gueydan, D legue du Haut-Commissaire .



The Governor General of Tuvalu H.E. Lakopa Italeli, Madam Italeli, Lapua Lapua Institute lifter, Ioane Haumili Institute lifter and the Hon. Dr Falesi Pitoi Minister for Education Youth and Sport.