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Hungarian head coach Hargitay forecasts bright future for Kenderesi and Késely

2016.09.29. 16:03 CET

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„Tamás has become a real star in Hungary, since he beat Michael Phelps twice in the Olympic Games. It is obvious that he would like to perform well in next year’s FINA World Championships as well” - Hargitay said.

„He had a good result in Rio, but it is up to him to improve more in the next couple of years. He is still very young, it would be very dangerous for him to get into the world of celebrities, I hope he can keep himself away from that.”

Hargitay is sure more and more fans will get to know the name of Anna Késely as well. The Hungarian youngster, who turns only 15 in September, won four gold medals in both the 2015 European Youth Olympic Festival and the 2016 European Junior Championships, another gold in this year’s European Championships in London (as a member of the 4x200 m freestyle relay), and finished sixth in Rio, also in the 4x200 m relay event.

„Ajna has learned a lot recently, she is becoming more and more experienced, although she is very-very young. I expect the bombastic results from her rather in the 2019 Junior World Championships in Hungary, but she will be definitely in the relay again in the 2017 FINA World Champs. She is not afraid of the big tasks and the pressure, so she will be better and better.”

Hargitay said there are a lot more talented young swimmers in Hungary, like Richárd Márton, who also shined in the 2016 Junior European Championships, but first they have to swim the required levels to have the chance to compete in Budapest next year.

„A swimmer at the age of 17-18 is not a youngster any more, but he or she is not an adult yet, and this is a very difficult situation, not everyone can cope with that. I can promise that we will give the chance to compete for more young athletes in the short course World Champs in December, but till then they have to work a lot.”