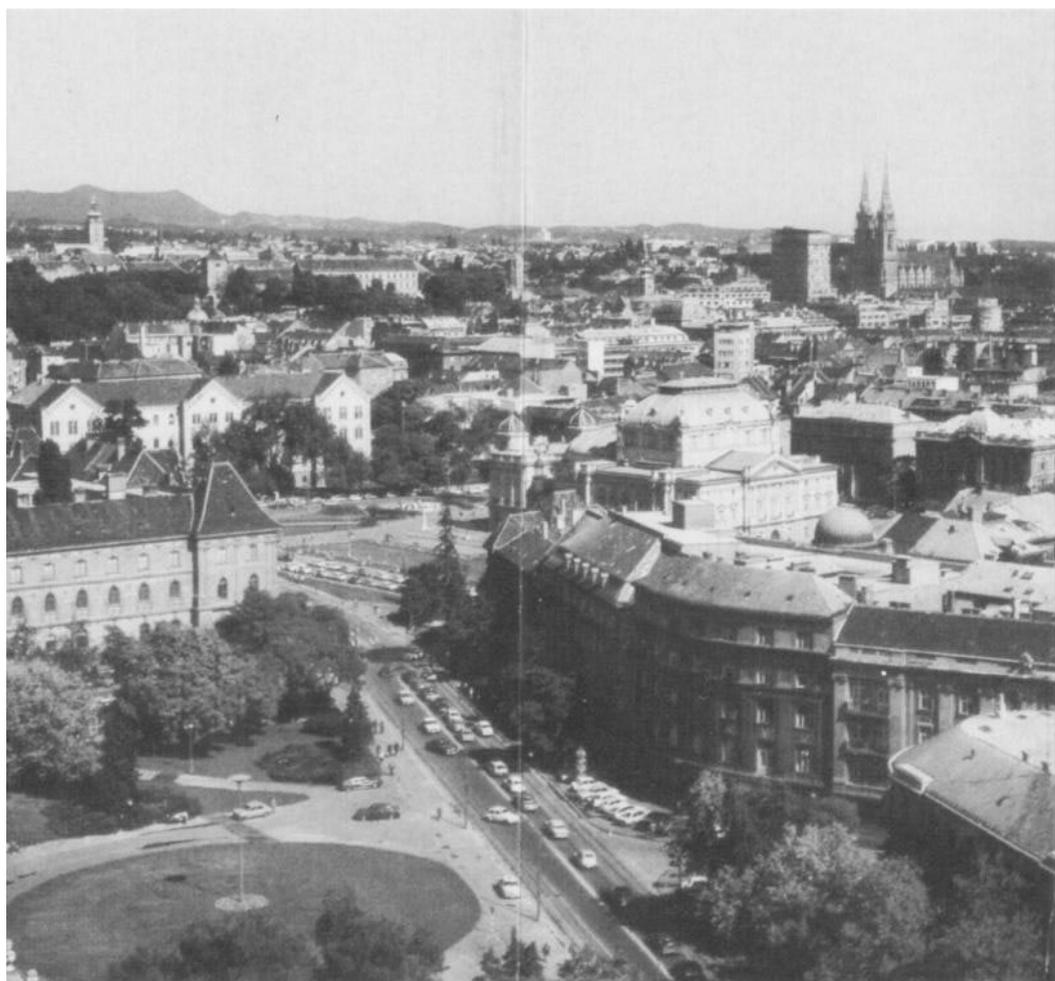


ZAGREB WELCOMES THE XIVMER UNIVERSIADE

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Yugoslavia, after the Winter Games in Sarajevo in 1984, is now preparing to host the World University Games, from 8th to 19th July. More than 7000 athletes and delegates from 152 countries are expected in the Croatian capital at the beginning of summer for top quality competitions. The IOC provided substantial support in the organization of this event.

In the period from May 1984 till the present day, Zagreb has undertaken a series of activities in order to host the Universiade as well as possible. Though the academic history of Zagreb goes back 300 years (Zagreb University is the oldest University on the Balkan peninsula) and its sports history has been running for over a hundred years, it has proved necessary to build numerous structures for the Universiade, both of sports and academic character. For the requirements of the Universiade, several new swimming pools have been built on Salata location (in the centre of the city, next to the Medical Faculty), on Mladost (next to the Faculty of Physical Culture), a new rowing track on the Jarin lake, which is ranked among the most modern rowing tracks in Europe and where there is a recreation area having a capacity to receive over 50.000 citizens of Zagreb, then numerous sports halls in Zagreb and its nearby surroundings, and school and faculty buildings. New pavilions of students residential halls have been built and some existing ones have been reconditioned. Besides sports buildings, the whole city of Zagreb is getting ready for the Universiade.

The 1987 Universiade, in the pre-Olympic year, and only two years after the "incomplete" Olympiad, will ensure high standard of sports competitions. At this moment, (100) days before the opening of the Universiade, some 111 countries from all the continents have been registered and pre-registration includes over 6,000 individual sportsmen and members of teams. There are some countries which would like to participate in the Universiade with their folk dancers, namely performing groups, as well as to take part in a number of scientific gatherings which will be organized in Zagreb and dedicated to special subjects connected with different sports and Universities.

The Organizing Committee, headed by Mr. Josip Vrhovec, (a member of the Presidency of S.F.R. of Yugoslavia), then its Executive Commit-

tee, supported by the Yugoslav Olympic Committee and Yugoslav Union for Physical Culture, is getting ready for the possible organization of this competition. In addition to the afore-mentioned bodies, the organization will be carried out also by about 19,000 volunteers, students, professors and citizens of Zagreb. They will all carry out their portion of the organization of the Games. The organization is in the stage of checking sports competitions, which are arranged before the Universiade.

So far four sports have been tested. Up to Universiade, at the beginning of May, competi-

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tions in rowing and kayak-canoe will be held. In June there will be competitions in athletics. In traditional Zagreb sports, such as tennis, basketball and football, it seems previous competitions do not have to be held, though a whole series of competitions in these sports will be organized too.

The city of Zagreb with its 1000-year old history is a city of youth and sports, as it has over 50,000 students and about 5,000 professors, then about 200 different sports clubs and individuals. Here one should mention the CIBONA basketball club which has won the European championships several times and it is holder of the Cup of Cups in basketball. Mladost Waterpolo Club was the European champion too. Zagreb is a city in Yugoslavia which has collected the greatest number of Olympic medals in various sports.



Competitions in athletics are awaited with great interest. A number of Olympic winners have been already registered for them. Such competitions are usually attended by future Olympic winners since Zagreb was the organizer of the European Athletic Cup and it is the first and

biggest centre for athletic sports in the country. The same goes for swimming and gymnastics.

Basketball is the favourite sport in Zagreb. In the new basketball hall numerous basketball fans will be able to support — the best players — students, and to cheer them on to achieve as big a score as possible.

The classical student sports — rowing and kayak-canoe have numerous fans in Yugoslavia too. Yugoslav sportsmen have achieved a number of successes in these sports. Yugoslav rowers and particularly canoeists and kayakists are at the top of the world competition. Swordsmanship, which is connected with students of younger generations, will also produce its heroes.

When on 8th of July flags are hoisted in flagpoles, in the presence of the President J. A. Samaranch, and also in the expected presence of the Secretary General of the United Nations,

Mr. Perez de Cuellar, Zagreb will be ready to be a good host to all the world students on the new and old sports structures. Today, 100 days before the beginning of the Universiade, we may say the Universiade could start now, however, we may also say that the time left till the beginning will be used purposefully.

J. M.



The Zagreb Sports Hall.



The Dinamo Stadium