

# News flash

## Around the world

Balloonists Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones, pilots of the first successful circumnavigation of the globe by hot air balloon, were presented in April with the Olympic Order at a ceremony held at the Olympic Museum. The IOC President praised the pilots for their courage and determination and thanked them for helping spread the spirit of the Olympic Movement through their message of peace which they faxed to the presidents of the National Olympic Committees of the coun-

tries over which they flew. "This is the affirmation of a friendship and confidence bestowed upon us by the IOC. A confidence which was demonstrated not only during our success but also our earlier failures. Our desire was to use the balloon as a tie of friendship between the peoples of the world," said Piccard. "Our flight on the Breitling Orbiter 3 was dedicated to the children of the World. May they grow up a little more sensitive to their planet and their fellow man than their forefathers" said British co-pilot

Brian Jones. Representing those children were more than a hundred local school children who celebrated the pilots' entrance

with their own balloon release. These children had followed the pilots' progress during the course of their studies.



*Brian Jones and Bertrand Piccard.*

## France

Named after the former president of the Comité National Olympique et Sportif Français (CNOSF) and chairman of the organizing committee of the Olympic Centenary Congress in Paris in 1994, the Nelson Paillou arena was officially opened in a ceremony led by Henri Sérandour, current CNOSF president, and Claude-Roger Cartier, president of

the Cercle Nelson Paillou, in the presence of the IOC President and Jean Tibéri, the mayor of Paris. Giving its name to this arena was the first concrete action taken by the Cercle Nelson Paillou, which was created on 19 November 1998 with the aim of promoting the life and works of the former CNOSF president who held this post for ten years.



*(From left to right) Guy Drut, Henri Sérandour, Claude-Roger Cartier, the IOC President and Jean Tibéri.*

## Korea

The 1999 IOC Sport and Education trophy was awarded to Sang-Chul Lee, president of the Korean University of Physical Education and member of the Korean NOC's executive board. The trophy was presented to him by

Un Yong Kim, IOC Executive Board member and president of the Korean NOC, at a ceremony attended by over a thousand local sportsmen and -women, during the University's spring festival.



*Sang-Chul Lee (right) holding his trophy, with Un Yong Kim (left).*