



*Mr. Rommel has just received the Olympic Cup. Left to Right: Messrs. August Kirsch, President of the Championships' Organising Committee, Mr. Primo Nebiolo, President of the IAAF and, on the right, the IOC President*

## EXCELLENCE REWARDED

It was to congratulate a city for the quality of its hospitality and its great enthusiasm that the IOC members decided last year to award the Olympic Cup to the city of Stuttgart (FRG), venue of the 4th European Athletics Championships last August.

All 60 000 seats of the Neckar Stadium would have been needed on 1st December, the day the Olympic Cup was presented by the IOC President to the Mayor of Stuttgart, Mr. Manfred Rommel, to hold all those who were, each in his own way, the artisans of the success of last summer's splendid athletics meeting. Many of them, hostesses, judges, athletes and the mayor of the athletes' village, Mr. Heinrich Clausen, did indeed have the chance to be among the lucky ones who were able to squeeze into the Liederhalle, where, the friendly ceremony took place.

Sports officials Dr. August Kirsch and Dr. Eberhard Munzert, President of the Organising Committee and President of the German Athletics Federation, respectively, had expressed a wish after the competitions that the host city should receive a tribute. They were more than proud to see their wish come true. Messrs. Primo Nebiolo,

President of the IAAF, Berthold Beitz, Vice-President of the IOC and Walther Tröger, Secretary General of the NOC, all supporters of the idea, were present at the ceremony. Only NOC President and IOC member Willi Daume was unable to be in Stuttgart for this occasion.

As he presented the Cup to its new recipient, President Samaranch declared that Stuttgart had rendered great services to sport and proved its loyalty to the Olympic ideal. President Nebiolo added that there had been no better candidate for the Cup in 1986.

The Mayor, Mr. Manfred Rommel, recalled that the credit for the success was also due to the quality of the television broadcasting, described as excellent by President Samaranch and extraordinary by President Nebiolo. Indubitably, the visitors also had their part in the highly colourful spectacle of the televised images. "It was their day", said President Munzert. And Mr. Rommel concluded by recalling that it was, at the end of the day, the sense of fair play and open-mindedness which most impressed, an attitude rare enough, alas, to deserve particular recognition.

The silver cup will be kept in the City Hall and displayed on special occasions such as the "Sports Ball".

Encouraged by this success, the city has already started fresh preparations for the World Gymnastics Championships in 1989 and the European Wrestling Championships in 1991, in the hope that there will be as good a public as the one last summer.

Following the IOC President's visit to Stuttgart, Mr. Manfred Rommel came in person to Lausanne. After his reception by President Samaranch at Olympic House in Vidy, he was the guest of the Municipality, led by the Mayor of Lausanne, Mr. Paul-René Martin.

*President Samaranch and Mr. Rommel in front of Olympic House*

