



THE SEVENTH "ANNEAU D'OR"

TRIBUTE TO SPORTS IMAGE-MAKERS

Television sports coverage had its own medal ceremony on 24th November in Lausanne. The 'Anneau d'Or', an international competition to promote sport on television and supported by the IOC, the European Broadcasting Union and the 'Société suisse de radiodiffusion et télévision', is a biennial event held in Switzerland. Last year, eighteen companies from sixteen countries competed. The forty-five entries, their screening open to the public, were judged by a panel headed by Mr. Joseph Choupin of the French Antenne 2, with Messrs. Jarle Hoeyaeter of Norway's NRK, Beno Hvala of Yugoslavia's JRT and a representative of each TV company which was taking part.

NBC, the American broadcaster in Seoul, won the news category for its coverage of the 4 X 100 m women's track and field relay in the Games. ORF of Austria came second for its filming of the 'White Water Grand Prix', a canoeing competition and ITV of Great Britain received a special mention for the 'Littlewoods Cup Final 1988', in football.

'I am the Greatest, Muhammad Ali, 15 years later', a sensitive portrayal of the celebrated boxer who is now suffering from Parkinson's disease, gave NOS of the Netherlands first prize in the feature category. ORF took another silver Anneau d'Or, for 'Body Language in Sports' and the German Democratic Republic's DDR-F was highly commended for its portrait of the double gold medallist in figure skating, Katarina Witt, 'Katarina-Carmen'.

The IOC's Administrateur Délégué, Mr. Raymond Gafner, headed a special panel of judges chosen by the IOC to judge the best short clip, less than a half a minute in length. The Anneau olympique d'or went to 'Tears of Joy', from the DDR-F, followed by 'Flying Shoe' from Finland's YLE and Antenne 2's 'Parachuting'.

Up-and-coming television sports commentators had their own competition. Seventeen French-speaking youngsters aged between eighteen and twenty-three were given a choice between three sports: a football match between the Swiss clubs NE Xamax and Galatasaray, the 1500 m men's athletics final in Seoul and the downhill of the skiing World Cup in Are, Sweden. Alain Röhrback of Switzerland, who works occasionally for the local Bernese Jura radio station, was judged to give the best voice-over by a jury headed by the personnel manager of Télévision Suisse Romande. In addition to winning the Prix Marcel Bezençon, he will spend two weeks with the television company.