

IMPRESSIVE CATALOGUE OF CIVILITY



Mrs Vera Caslavka receiving the 1989 trophy from Mr Federico Mayor. Left, Mr Willi Daume, right, Mr Roger Barmbuck.

As worthy recipients of its 1989 trophies, the International Fair Play Committee chose the impressive sports careers of Vera Caslavka, the great lady of Czechoslovakian gymnastics; American and Australian tennis champions Chris Evert and Ken Rosewall; and Switzerland's downhill ski star Pirmin Zurbriggen.

For the 26th time since 1964, the Fair Play Trophies were awarded amidst the plush decor of the Unesco headquarters in Paris on 5th November last. Facing an audience which included many personalities from the world of sport, and accompanied by Messrs Jean Borotra, honorary president of the committee; Federico Mayor, Unesco Director-General; and Roger Bambuck,

French minister for youth and sports, the International Fair Play Committee President, Mr Willi Daume, IOC member in Germany, proceeded to present these trophies, a tribute to exemplary behaviour in competition.

As every year, the honours were divided into several categories. First of all

there was the tribute to an entire career, like that of Vera Caslavka, who after winning the greatest number of Olympic medals of all kinds during a long career as a gymnast, now makes use of her administrative talents as president of the Czechoslovakian NOC and national sports minister. Then there is Chris Evert with 157 titles, including 18 Grand Slam wins, universally recognized by her opponents, referees and the public alike for her courteous play and modesty, in victory and defeat alike; or again the Australian Ken Rosewall whose sportsman-like attitude merits the same compliments. And finally Pirmin Zurbriggen, one of the greatest ski champions ever, and whose name is always mentioned in the same breath as his chivalrous and fair behaviour.

The Trophy which rewards a particular attitude or act of fair play forms the second category. This year it went to a Frenchman for the first time ever, fencer Jean-Michel

Henry, whose remarkably sporting conduct was apparent many times during the Monal challenge, the épée competition organized by the FIE as part of the World Cup.

Then came the diplomas of honour. These were awarded to Pradip Kumar Banjeree (IND), the football player who has never been booked in 85 international matches; Josef Keistmantl, an Austrian luger; the Hungarian fencer Aladar Gerevich; Kabama Wa Kabengu, the football player from Zaire; the Swiss skier Maria Walliser; the Argentinian fencer Anrea Chulichich; Susan Devoy, a squash player from New Zealand; Arsalane Kebir, Moroccan journalist; Gerry Breton, university sports co-ordinator in Quebec (CAN); Johannes van der Veen and Albert Buisman, Dutch sports leaders; and the Canadian Lacrosse Federation. The last category, letters of congratulation sent to twelve athletes whose conduct has been particularly sportsman-like, completes this impressive catalogue of civil conduct.

THE FAIR PLAY TROPHIES



Along with Vera Caslavka and Ken Rosewall, Chris Evert and Pirmin Zurbriggen have received the 1989 Fair Play Trophies for their exemplary attitudes throughout their sporting careers.