

Honorary doctorate in Malta

In Valletta on 22nd November last! **President Juan Antonio Samaranch** received an honorary doctorate from the University of Malta (1) at a magnificent ceremony following a mass celebrated in the university chapel by **Mgr Joseph Merciesa**, Archbishop of Malta, and attended by the President of the Republic, **Mr C. Tadone**; the Prime Minister, **Mr E. Frenedami**; the ministers for human resources and sports; and the NOC President and Secretary General, **Messrs Gino Camilleri and Joseph Cassar**. The IOC President was recently awarded the first Leonardo da Vinci Prize by the Leonardo da Vinci Institute in Moscow. The prize is awarded in recognition of action to promote the organization of sports events. In addition, on 22nd December in Madrid, the Spanish Olympic Committee presented the COE Order in gold to President Samaranch.

The Olympic Order awarded to him by the 96th Session was presented to **Professor I. Diop Mar** (2), former Senegalese NOC president, by H.E. Kéba Mbaye, member of the IOC Executive Board. Formerly Dean of the Dakar Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacology, Professor Diop Mar is a member of the IOC sub-commission for sports medicine. **Mr Tsuyoshi "Bob" Miyokawa**, who began his career in sports journalism 40 years ago in the Japanese Amateur Sports Association, received the Olympic Order (3) from Mr Shunichiro Okano during a recent meeting of the Japanese NOC in Tokyo, in the presence of Messrs Chiharu Igaya and Masaji Kiyokawa, IOC members in Japan, Zhenliang He, member in China, and Hironoshin Furuhashi, NOC President. A member

of the IOC Press Commission for 18 years, Mr Miyakawa covered eight Summer Games and five Winter Games. He was head of the press centre at the Games in Sapporo and again at the 1990 IOC Session in Tokyo. The Mexican museologist **Iker Laurauri** has received the Olympic Order from President Juan Antonio Samaranch in recognition for his work on the Olympic Museum (4).

Mr Richard W. Pound, IOC member in Canada and member of the Executive Board, has been admitted to the Quebec Swimming Federation hall of fame. An Olympic finalist in Rome, he won gold, silver and two bronze medals two years later at the Commonwealth Games in Australia, and was treasurer and then director of the Quebec section of the Canadian Swimming Association from 1965 to 1970.

Messrs Phillip Coles, IOC member in Australia; **John Coates**, President of the Australian Olympic Association; and Vice-President **Geoff Henke** have been admitted to the national hall of fame for their contribution to Olympism (5).

Mr Robert Scott, the charismatic leader of the two bids by Manchester, has been knighted by Queen Elizabeth II. Sir Bob told the *London Times* at his investiture: *"For the first time in my life, I am speechless. I am profoundly grateful and hope that all those who shared the adventure of bidding for the Games during the last few years will feel that I am dedicating this honour to them, as none of all this would have happened without their fantastic support, which I continue to receive."*

