

goes, "Good news is no news". In defiance of the absurd and insulting comments and demands for resignation made by people who have absolutely nothing to do with the Olympic Movement, or by opportunists, Samaranch will remain at the helm to continue his work of modernization. Only the IOC Session, which includes all the IOC members, can pass a vote of "no confidence", not these self-styled moral arbiters. The founder of the IOC, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, said "while there were blows to be taken - and to strike - I

remained joyfully at the post in which the continuing unanimity of your votes kept me." Samaranch can say the same.

But in the end, who are these people who have distinguished themselves through their arrogance, their aggressiveness and their misunderstanding of the facts, and who claim to uphold "moral values" of which they themselves do not know the meaning? Nevertheless, I am convinced that the IOC will come out of this crisis and take all the necessary measures to correct the weaknesses in its different

structures. You know that the IOC, which is in its 105th year of existence, has never suspended its activities except during the First and Second World Wars.

The IOC will continue its fight against doping in sport by creating an anti-doping Agency, and its fight against under-development by increasing its actions of Olympic solidarity to the benefit of the most disadvantaged countries, and by cooperating closely with the Organizing Committees, in order to ensure the success of the Olympic Games of the next millennium.

News flash

Israel

The 1998 annual session of the National Olympic Academy of Israel was held in the city of Eilat. Nahum Rogel, who was part of the Israeli Olympic team to the Games of the XXV and XXVI Olympiads in Barcelona and Atlanta in

1992 and 1996, respectively, and who is now training in preparation for the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney in 2000, was the keynote speaker. The session was attended by many young people, who enjoyed this opportunity to meet an Olympic athlete.



A young participant receives a certificate of participation from Gabi Kadosh, mayor of Eilat. Zvi Varshaviak, NOC president, is pictured left.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The NOC president Vasil Tupurkovski recently presented the 1998 IOC Sports Ethics Trophy to sports medicine specialist Milos

Vucidolov, and the 1997 IOC Sport for All Trophy to Sokrat Eftimovski, a physical education teacher.



(From left to right) Sokrat Eftimovski, Vasil Tupurkovski and Milos Vucidolov