



The winning basketball team in Rwanda.

Oye Thorpe, and the NOC's public relations officer, Fabio Lanipekun. Around 180 participants from 12 of the country's states competed in the following events: kokawa (traditional wrestling), dambe (traditional boxing), langa (combat sport), ayo (wooden board game) and abula (a ball game). There were also demonstrations of African pool and handball for disabled people. On the other side of the Atlantic, forty of the United States, including New York, California, Minnesota, Texas, Washington and Florida, organized sports events

under the aegis of the National Congress of State Games (NCSG). More than 450,000 people of all ages and around 100,000 volunteers were involved in 90 sports, 42 of them on the programme of the Olympic or Pan-American Games. During the NCSG national convention in Roanoke, Virginia, Soren Thompson of California and Thrine Kane of New York were declared sportsman and sports-woman of the year in the presence of Peter Westbrook, who has fenced at six Olympic Games, and Ron Allen, president of the NCSG.



(From left to right) Sandi Hill, Soren Thompson, Ron Allen, Peter Westbrook, Thrine Kane, Sheila Walker and Fred Smith.

Inauguration of the Rebuilt Zetra Olympic Hall

The Zetra Olympic Hall was the site of the figure skating and ice hockey events, and of the closing ceremony of the XIV Olympic Winter Games in Sarajevo in 1984. It was destroyed during the war, after missiles made a direct hit through its roof. Through a collaborative project led by the IOC in coordination with the National Olympic Committee of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in cooperation with the European Union, the Canton of Sarajevo, the City of Barcelona, the International Skating Union, and the governments of Spain, Norway

and the Netherlands, as well as the Sport Humanitarian Group, it has been rebuilt and will be inaugurated on 30 March 1999. The ceremony will be a gala evening of skating, including 1984 Olympic champion Katarina Witt and winners from the 1999 figure skating championships in Helsinki, Finland. The IOC President, the president of the National Olympic Committee of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the International Skating Union president, and the mayor of Sarajevo will lead the opening ceremony before the gala.



Inside view of the rebuilt Zetra Hall.

Morocco

At a working meeting, the Moroccan NOC president Housni Benslimane and the executive board members of the Moroccan Sporting Press Association (AMPS), headed by Najib Salmi, discussed various subjects including the role of sports

journalists and sports leaders in developing sports practice to face future challenges Mixed commissions are to be set up, and a day devoted to studying the realities of sports journalism will be organized jointly with the Moroccan Ministry of Youth and Sports.