

expect them to demonstrate a sense of responsibility for the welfare of others. A true champion can provide a worthy and positive influence over the many souls that watch. Through his or her conduct a trend can be set; perhaps even "influencing posterity". As role models and "heirs apparent" elite athletes are entrusted to the care of their coaches' and parents' guidance. Having reached adult years and attained a certain level of competence, the elite athlete, we hope, will transfer the good lessons learned on to others. However, let's not assume this to be guaranteed. Only if we show strong leadership to younger athletes can we expect the new elite to demonstrate these better values of sport to the public.

We are entrusting our future to those we help prepare. These athletes are not only citizens but special role models for everyone to focus on. Every youth should be given the best advice possible and instilled with the finest sporting morals we can provide. The practice of sport can have an enrich-

ing impact on all our lives. The risks are a reality but so are the rewards if we prepare them properly. Sport may be our world's most cherished tool for collective peace and cohesive progress. By preparing our elite athletes to accept the responsibility of leadership we are making an invaluable

contribution to their future and to the future of humankind as well.

The rewards certainly demand that we take the risks. But applying anything less than a firm guiding hand would mean risking it all.

\*Artist.



*Two young hockey players listen to their coach.*

## News flash

### Art and Sport 2000 competition

The IOC Cultural Commission has launched the Art and Sport 2000 competition to give artistic athletes and young artists from all over the world the opportunity to have their sport-inspired creations exhibited during the Cultural Olympiad in Sydney in the year 2000. Of the 59 NOCs which have officially announced their participation, the Ecuadorian

is one of the first to have launched the competition. In the presence of 200 guests including personalities from the art, sport and media worlds, Alberto Cordero Aroca, director of the Ecuadorian Olympic Museum and organizer of the first phase of the competition, spoke about the country's cultural and sporting heritage, and asked all

the guests to lend their support to the competition. Similarly, the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee confirmed its participation in this most significant cultural activity. Mr Ching-Kuo Wu, the IOC member in Chinese Taipei and member of the IOC Cultural Commission, has been appointed chairman of the Cultural Commission of the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee to initiate this Art and Sport Contest. The National Sport

Council also granted its support. All entries will be preliminarily selected by a jury, which will consist of top art critics and sport officials. These pieces will be displayed at the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall from 1 to 15 January 2000. There are various promotional activities planned beforehand to publicise and promote the event. The Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee hopes through this effort it will attract a high standard of entries.