

# Olympic Solidarity

## International coaching course

Twenty-five coaches from 20 countries in 12 sports were awarded an Olympic scholarship to attend an International Coaching Course organized by the Hungarian University of Physical Education, Institute of Coaching and Sport Education, from 10 March to 2 June 1999 in Budapest. The comprehensive programme consisting of theory and practical classes on sport general and sport-related topics, also allowed the coaches attending the course to gain an insight into the selection and preparation of the top Hungarian athletes and national teams, to become

acquainted and to participate in continental competitions and national championships.

A number of teachers and professors, highly respected for their teaching methods, lectured for the course. Most of them had also led an outstanding sporting career in Hungary, becoming Olympians, national or international champions.

During the closing ceremony, when the coaches were awarded their certificates, many sport personalities were present, including József Tihanyi, the rector of the university; Tamás Aján, secretary general of the Interna-

tional Weightlifting Federation and vice president of the GAISF; and Agoston Schulek, vice president of the European Athletic Association.

The first international coaching course was held in 1971 with six participants. Since the establishment of the course, 965 participants from more than 80 countries have taken such courses. Most of the participants have since become recognized coaches in their respective countries, Olympic Solidarity first awarded these grants for coaches in 1991. The next course will be organized from September to December 1999.



*Group photo*