

SPORTEL 1999

The tenth edition of SPORTEL in Monte Carlo, chaired by IOC member Prince Alexandre de Merode, attracted over 1,600 participants from 67 countries. This international meeting of sport and television offered, in addition to the International Sports Television Programmes Market, a variety of conferences, meetings and exhibitions. A symposium entitled "What future for sport on television?" brought together a number of famous sports personalities, several world broadcasters, representatives from governing bodies and sponsors. A tribute to the rugby World Cup was organized within the framework of the

Festival of the Best Sports Images. This year, the jury for the traditional "Georges Bertellotti Golden Podiums" included IOC Vice-president Anita DeFrantz, IOC member Nawal El Moutawakel (Olympic 400 metre hurdles champion in Los Angeles in 1984), mountain doctor

Christine Janin and Just Fontaine, the highest scorer in the football World Cup. The Golden Podiums were awarded for the best sports images, credits, TV sports advertising films and slow-motion images. SPORTEL also awarded the 2nd Illustrated Sports Book

Prize to Pascal Sombardier for his work entitled 'Dolomites, les plus belles Via Ferratas' (The Greatest Via Ferratas of the Dolomites). SPORTEL 2000 will be held from 5 to 8 November at the Grimaldi Forum, the new congress centre in Monaco.



The Golden Podium winners and jury members.

Poland

On the occasion of its 80th anniversary, the Polish Olympic Committee organized several events all over the country with the participation of some outstanding Polish Olympians. The final celebrations were held in Cracow, the city where on 12 October 1919 a group of officials created the Polish Committee of the Olympic Games, the original name of the NOC. Prince Stefan Lubomirski was elected the first president and the Head of State Jozef Pilsudski gave his patronage to the Committee. Polish Olympic Committee officials, Olympians and representa-

tives of Cracow authorities met in the room of Francuski Hotel where the founders' meeting took place 80 years ago. This room was named 'the Olympic Room'. Furthermore, an exhibition of books dealing with the Olympic Games and Olympism was inaugurated. A poetic evening entitled '80 poems for 80 years' was also held at the hotel during which actors of Cracow theatres read poems on sports including 'Olympic Laurel' by Polish poet Kazimierz Wierz"nski, winner of the Olympic Art Competition at the Games of the IX Olympiad in

Amsterdam in 1928. During its meeting, the NOC Executive Board made the decision on Poland's participation in the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney in 2000. The officials were awarded with the high state

orders of the President of the Republic of Poland Aleksander Kwasniewski. A debate devoted to the future and the perspectives of the Olympic Games was the finale of the Cracow celebrations.



Celebration of the NOC's 80th anniversary in Cracow.