

Humanitarian affairs



IOC member Tay Wilson preparing the sports kits.

opened and the balls were pumped up ready for use.

Memories of happy, smiling children, young people playing soccer and volleyball, the surprise and 'mystery' of a rugby ball, parents watching with delight at the fun and antics of their children; these were the highlights of each day. The gratitude of the people was shown with warm handshakes, smiles and laughter.



Children from East Timor.

The mission was successful and was carried out in a very smooth and efficient manner despite the difficulties of the area where the kits were delivered. The support from sponsors was excellent as everyone felt genuinely pleased to be able to help the people of East Timor. The use of volunteers to pack the kits was a very positive move. In general it gave those involved a feeling of satisfaction that they had been able to give practical support to the people of East Timor.

With all the work arranging the project, raising the funds, organizing sponsorship and donations from so many, it is important that the equipment has an on-going benefit to the community. Although sports equipment was delivered to many schools and rehabilitation centres there is concern that without the UNHCR in residence at the distribution points to provide structured sports programmes and security, the equipment may well have been lost and would not provide on-going benefits.

Lindsay Osborne

News

Sydney 2000 at the Olympic Museum

The organization of the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney provided an unmissable opportunity for the Olympic Museum in Lausanne to be at the centre of activity by being the first to relay the ceremonies and competitions.

Thus from 15 September to 1 October, the Museum lived to the rhythm of Australia and its culture through numerous activities, as it had previously done during the Games of

the XXVI Olympiad, the Centennial Games, in Atlanta in 1996 and the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano in 1998.

The Opening Ceremony was broadcast in full on a giant screen, as were the competitions. Each day, visitors were able to see all the results, along with screening of the best photography.

The programme of activities also included didgeridoo workshops, boomerang-

decorating workshops and lessons in boomerang throwing. Trampolineing, a new Olympic sport, was also demonstrated.

Following the recent closure of *Aboriginal Art: an immemorial fountain of youth, the Sydney 2000 at the Olympic Museum* exhibition is now showing a variety of torches, medals, official clothing and other objects related to Australian culture, until 19 November.

