

## Bulgaria

Nessebar, one of the oldest towns on the shores of the Black Sea, staged the first Olympic Festival, from 30 August to 3 September. It was organised by the NOC and brought together more than 350 athletes, Olympians, teachers, students, musicians, actors, painters and scientists from all over Bulgaria. The Festival was officially opened by IOC member and NOC president Ivan Slavkov, and provided a programme uniting sport and culture. It was for this reason that the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Bulgarian Olympic Academy covered subjects such as “culture

and Olympism”, “sociological aspects of Olympism” and “the challenges of Olympism”. Olympic education was at the centre of the discussions of the his-

tory of the Olympic Movement teachers. Objects, souvenirs and other items of Olympic memorabilia were displayed at a meeting of Olympic collectors.

The cultural programme was completed by a concert by the famous group “the mysteries of Bulgarian voices”, a traditional music concert, a show by a local children’s choir as well as an exhibition of graphic works. As for sport, there were badminton, beach volleyball and tennis competitions. The highlight of the Festival was the millennium football match, with one team made up of actors, musicians and journalists, and the other of fans from Bulgaria’s two largest football clubs, “CSKA” and “Levski”. The match ended in a seven-all draw.



*The musical group ‘The mysteries of Bulgarian voices’.*

## El Salvador

Children and young people of El Salvador were the main beneficiaries of the sport for all event entitled, “Football for fairness in the community” (*“Futbolito con Equidad en la Comunidad”*), organised under the IOC’s patronage. Among the aims of this programme is the development of mixed football practice and football played cleanly, which encourages community life while using free time advisedly and supports a fraternal dialogue without vio-

lence. Two small suburbs on the fringes of the capital, San Salvador, Las Palmas and Nueva Israel, participated in this project, bringing together a total of 440 players split into four categories according to age (from 8 to 19 years old). Each team was composed of eight players, three of whom were girls. The winners were given medals and trophies. According to the NOC President, Benjamin Ruiz Rodas, this type of programme helps to

strengthen the social development of all parties con-

cerned in these developing suburbs San Salvador,



*A football game between young people from Las Palmas and Nueva Israel.*