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A.G. au Chili

Reportage

Ski in France

World Championships

Cross-Country in Morocco

World Championships



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EDITORIAL



François Pilot
Secrétaire Général

Winter ended in a climax with Ski Week which, taking place in Annecy, proved, as if it was needed once again, the incredible richness of military skiing which, in all alpine as well as nordic disciplines, are top of the line... With the enormous satisfaction of knowing that at the end of a season which is becoming fuller and fuller, our best athletes weren't just satisfied with dabbling in the Haute-Savoie's charms: a military world title can still stir up desire in skiers whose records are already so overflowing with international distinctions.

Influenced by the paradoxical climates between the hemispheres, we, Global Nordics, had barely donned our springtime clothes when we were faced with the start of a southern autumn on the occasion of the General Assembly in Santiago. I won't dwell on this huge annual event since your favourite magazine has already concentrated a substantial portion to it.

A favourite season for many of you, summer is on the horizon promising torrid sports days. Because all of our athletes will be on the edge in the next few months as they attempt to prove themselves in all parts of the globe.

I am thinking of those who, to the extreme pleasure of the military disciplines which constitute a legitimate portion of our pride, will be fighting it out for multi-carat military world gold titles. The Aeronautical, Military, and Naval Pentathlons, Parachuting, and Orientation will deliver their sports verdict during the scholastic vacation, crowning military world champions of great mettle.

But I am also thinking of the other part of our athletes, those who will be going for Atlanta's Olympic gold on the occasion of the Olympic Games' Centennial anniversary. Statistics have proven it many times: our "military members" will be sure to grab up a hefty portion of the alluring Georgian «cake».

To all, I wish a superb sports summer crowned with success and I firmly hope that you will show yourselves worthy of CISM and the fair-play spirit that we develop in the course of our activities.

CISM, more than ever, is living a four-season rhythm. It is without a doubt the only multi-sport federation which, from the first to the last day of the year, is in the forefront of international sports news. This represents more than a simple guarantee of our organisation's durability.

L'hiver s'est terminé en apothéose avec la Semaine du ski qui, à Annecy, a démontré, si besoin s'en fallait encore, la formidable richesse du ski militaire qui, dans toutes les disciplines alpines comme nordiques, tient le haut de la neige... Avec l'énorme satisfaction de constater qu'à la fin d'une saison de plus en plus chargée, les meilleurs de nos athlètes ne se sont pas contentés de goûter aux charmes de la Haute-Savoie : un titre mondial militaire attise la convoitise de skieurs dont le palmarès regorge pourtant de distinctions internationales.

Paradoxe climatique entre les deux hémisphères aidant, nous, les Nordiques du globe, revêtements à peine nos vêtements de printemps que nous avons connu la douceur d'un début d'automne austral à l'occasion de l'Assemblée Générale de Santiago. Je ne m'appesantirai pas sur ce grand rendez-vous annuel puisqu'une substantielle partie de votre magazine préféré y est consacrée.

Saison préférée d'une grande majorité d'entre vous, l'été pointe à l'horizon avec des journées qui s'annoncent torrides sur le plan sportif. Car tous nos athlètes seront sur la brèche au cours des prochains mois qui les verront se mettre en évidence dans toutes les parties du globe.

Je pense à ceux qui, au gré des disciplines militaires qui composent une partie de notre fierté bien légitime, se battront pour un or mondial militaire de plusieurs carats. Pentathlon aéronautique, militaire et naval, parachutisme et course d'orientation livreront, pendant les vacances scolaires, leur verdict sportif et couronneront des champions mondiaux militaires de grande valeur.

Mais je pense également à l'autre partie de nos athlètes, ceux qui disputeront l'or olympique à Atlanta, à l'occasion du Centenaire des Jeux Olympiques. Les statistiques l'ont prouvé à maintes reprises : nos «militaires» s'octroieront, à coup sûr, une grosse partie de l'alléchant «cake» géorgien.

A tous, je souhaite un superbe été sportif couronné de succès et j'espère fermement que vous vous montrerez digne du CISM et de l'esprit de fair-play que nous développons au gré de nos activités.

Le CISM vit, plus que jamais, au rythme des quatre saisons. C'est sans nul doute la seule fédération multi-sportive au monde qui, du premier au dernier jour de l'année, est présente sur le front de l'actualité sportive internationale, ce qui représente plus qu'une garantie pour la pérennité de notre organisation.

FEU D'ARTIFICE SUR...



ANNECY

La saison internationale de ski s'est achevée en apothéose par les Championnats du Monde militaires de ski qui se sont disputés à Annecy, et plus précisément sur les pistes de La Clusaz et du Grand Bornand, du 18 au 23 mars 1996. Le printemps pointait son nez avec insistance mais le redoux observé n'avait pas altéré les pistes au demeurant remarquablement bien préparées par des organisateurs qui ont rondement bien mené leur affaire. Leurs énormes efforts ont été couronnés de succès avec une superbe participation aussi bien sur le plan quantitatif que qualitatif. En dépit d'une très longue saison, le gratin du ski mondial s'était donné rendez-vous avec la ferme intention de ne pas se livrer au tourisme, ce qui eût été pourtant bien compréhensible dans cette magnifique région de Haute-Savoie. La preuve par l'absence à peine remarquée de deux monstres sacrés du ski international, Alberto Tomba et Manuela Di Centa. La qualité des podiums valait bien celle des Coupes du Monde et des Championnats du monde civils de la saison écoulée. Ce n'est désormais un secret pour personne : nos militaires sont désormais sur le devant de la scène des sports d'hiver. Découvrez, avec nous, ceux qui ont écrit les plus belles lettres de ce superbe rendez-vous savoyard. La saison hivernale 1995-1996 s'est terminée sur le plus beau des feux d'artifice.

De notre envoyé spécial en Haute-Savoie - Marc Vandenplas
Reportage photographique - Dirk De Vos

ANDREJA A RISING STAR



You cannot qualify a 24 year old athlete in a discipline. Nevertheless at almost 25 years, Andreja Grasic is a brand new face in the biathlon. And remember that not even three years ago, her only affiliation with the sport was a simple, casual, long-distance skiing interest. And then, the native Slovenian, along with the chiefs of military sports, her trainer Korokelvic and the Chief of the Etat-Major, Brigadier Zupa (without whom the Slovenian biathlon would be non-existent at the highest level), she fixed herself a goal: to become the best biathlete in the world. We, basically, discovered, in the young Andreja, all the necessary qualities to attain the highest level in the discipline.

And in her bundle of fortés, a long-distance skill that hence forward on be known in the biathlon circuit: "With Briand, Claret, Dizl and the Russians, I am among the fastest long-distance skiers," she explains. She has quickly acquired the subtleties of sport. To the point of figuring among the top of the World Cup 15-km after three complete seasons. Her final victory in this World Cup demonstrates, in any case, that the Slovenian has, to say the least, a natural affinity for the sport. "I still have to improve my shooting; I still have my off-days. I must absolutely be much more consistent. This is not as dramatic in the World Cup since you have all season to make up for it, but in a one-day competition, it becomes much more crucial because the pressure is so high." And this certainly explains her four faults in shooting during the recent civilian world championships in Ruhpolding, which relegated her to 11th place, bashing her statute as the favorite. But Andreja learns quickly, so much so that we don't doubt she will, in the course of time, be able to better her shooting to make it unbeatable even in the face of big competitions.

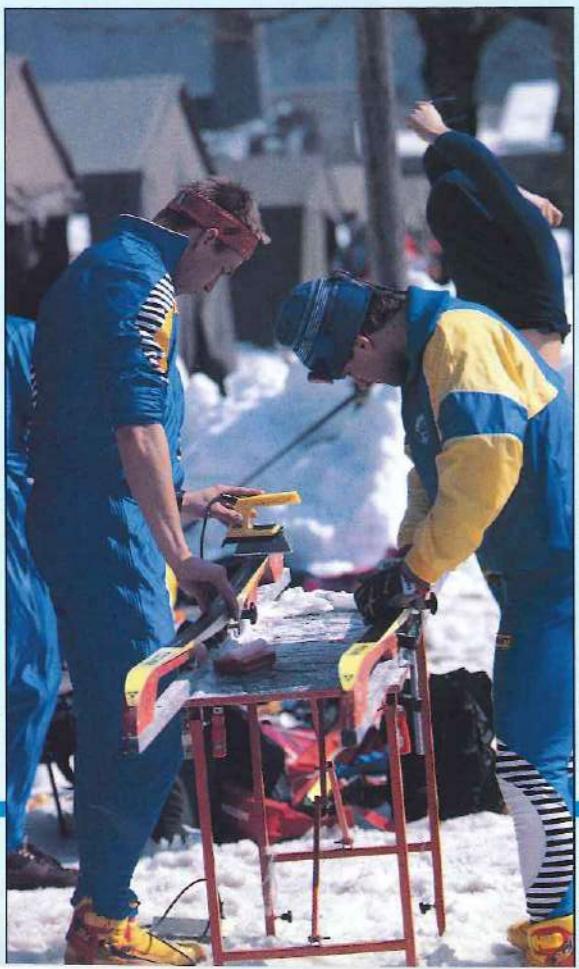
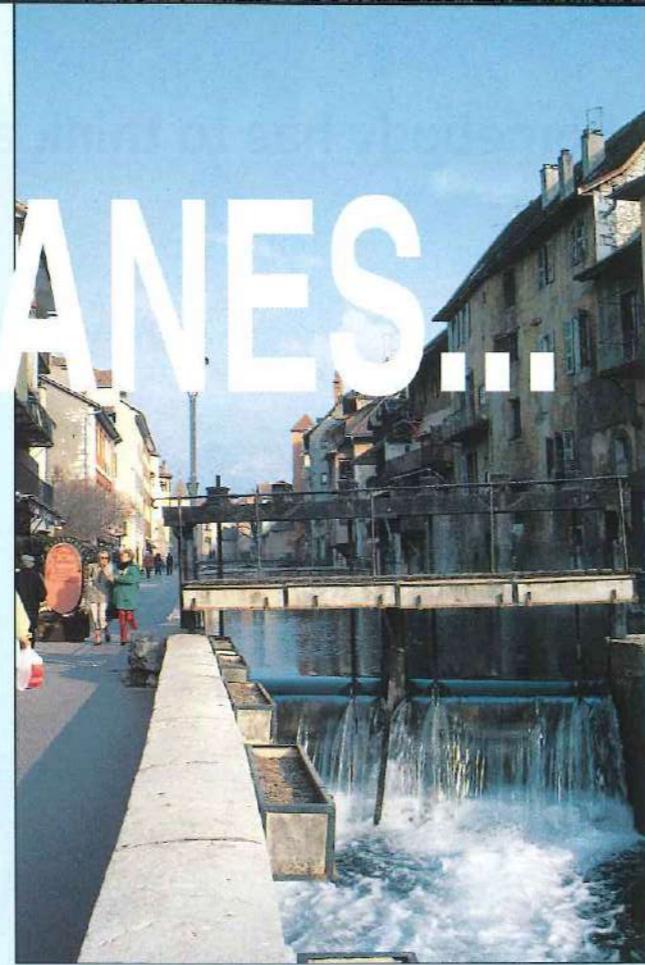
Sergeant Grasic had given herself three years to get to the top. During this period, which ended with this season, she was to examine, with her entourage, if she would have the opportunity to continue with her endeavor. Her success this past season will push her to persevere along her route as a biathlete. With all the talent, and above all, determination, that she has, she is in any case declaring herself as one of the most serious candidates for the Olympic podium: "I do sacrifice everything for the biathlon. I think biathlon, live biathlon, and don't authorize myself the least deviation. I want to be the best. I have to be the best. It's my Leitmotif, a personal

choice which makes it possible for me to make all the sacrifices demanded by the highest level of biathlon. I train daily at Pokljuka, where the Slovenian portion of the World Cup takes place. It's where the men train, and the strain is always intense."

Andreja Grasic excuses herself and leaves us, strong in her determination: "the Olympic gold is only won at a price of sustained training and freely consented to sacrifices." As long as she stays at the highest level, she will think of nothing but the biathlon. And nothing but the biathlon. And with such determination, the rising star of the biathlon should shine with increasing brilliance. □ M.V.



INSTANTANÉES...





THE LONG-DISTANCE QUEENS ARE BECOMING WEARY

From left to right : Elena Vaelbe (Russia) 2nd, Larissa Lazutina (Russia) 1st, Stefanie Belmondo (Italy) 3rd

Lazutina, Vaelbe, Belmondo, Di Centa: two Russians and two Italians, four queens in for a combat of the best. Combat between four women who have dominated the long-distance ski kingdom for almost a decade. To retrace the records of these four distancers would be re-writing long-distance skiing's past ten years' history. Practically every victory in the World Cups, the World Championships, and the Olympics has been taken by one of these four. The participation of this quartet in this World Championship ought to have once again allowed us to see an all-out Russo-Italian duel. Sure, we got what we expected, but not completely. And it was Manuela Di Centa's fault when she put the Italian leaders in a rage by an unannounced, last-minute no-show. There was no trace of the talented Manuela, even though some claimed to have seen her roaming around in the Annecy vicinity. Mirage...? Nevertheless, Di Centa left her

compatriot, Belmondo, alone in the face of some intimidating Russians for a race which held its every promise.

Stefanie Belmondo, light as a feather at 1m56 for only 47 kilos, so light that she seemed to fly over the snow, had a great start, placing herself in the lead, which she was to keep for a good part of the race. Then her style became more strained, her breath shorter, and the gold-tinted medal finally took on a bronze color. Just like the emaciated face of the sweet Italian, all smiles, whose verbal as well as musical prose attracts sympathy without fail. World and Olympic champion, victorious in 11 World Cups, this 26 year-old forest warden was exhausted at the finish: "I am wasted. This season was really too long for me. Too long. I've been going since the month of May. Ten months without being able to breathe; that uses a person up. And I paid for my lack of freshness in the second half of the race. But truly, I couldn't do any better. This being said, I'm

still happy with past season. I am really getting back in shape. Two foot operations in these past few years slowed me down a lot. I hope to get back in true Olympic form next year, which allowed me to keep more on top in the beginning of the 1990's. Next season will determine the orientation of my career."

With Belmondo in third, Elena Vaelbe had the honor of taking second place. Victorious in the finals of three World Cups (1989, 1991, and 1995), Olympic and World champion, the Russian had to leave this victory for her compatriot Larissa Lazutina, the other great Russian racer. And with a general classing victory in the World Cup, seven partial victories in this last event, and Olympic and World titles, Larissa certainly didn't stain the Annecy record books. But like Vaelbe, she seemed more anxious to respond to the anti-doping control demands than to conduct an interview using an interpreter.

The 30 year-old is coming back in

form after two or three seasons which, though certainly performed at a high level, saw her a little in the shadow of Di Centa and Vaelbe: "You know, competition is becoming harder and harder. The challengers are stronger and stronger each season and you have to be in top shape for longer and longer periods. The competitions are becoming more numerous, as are the World Cup events. In my opinion, that's the most notable change I've seen since the beginning of my career. With, of course, ski technology. What an

evolution! The races have become faster and faster, and each World Cup event is fought at a frightening rhythm. At the end of a season, that really weighs on a person."

But to see her spin away at the end of our interview, Larissa Lazutina must still have some solid reserves. But it was her last competition of the season, so we can excuse her all the more voluntarily for not feeling pressed to respond to one of the innumerable interviews she must perform throughout the season.

The season is over. Now they take the month of April to recharge their batteries and grant themselves some well-deserved vacations before gradually resuming training throughout the month of May. The queens medium-distance certainly still have it in them to save us a few more beautiful jousts in future seasons.

Jousting to our great pleasure and, let's face it, to CISM's great pride, which can certainly be happy to possess at its breast the cream of female distance skiing. □



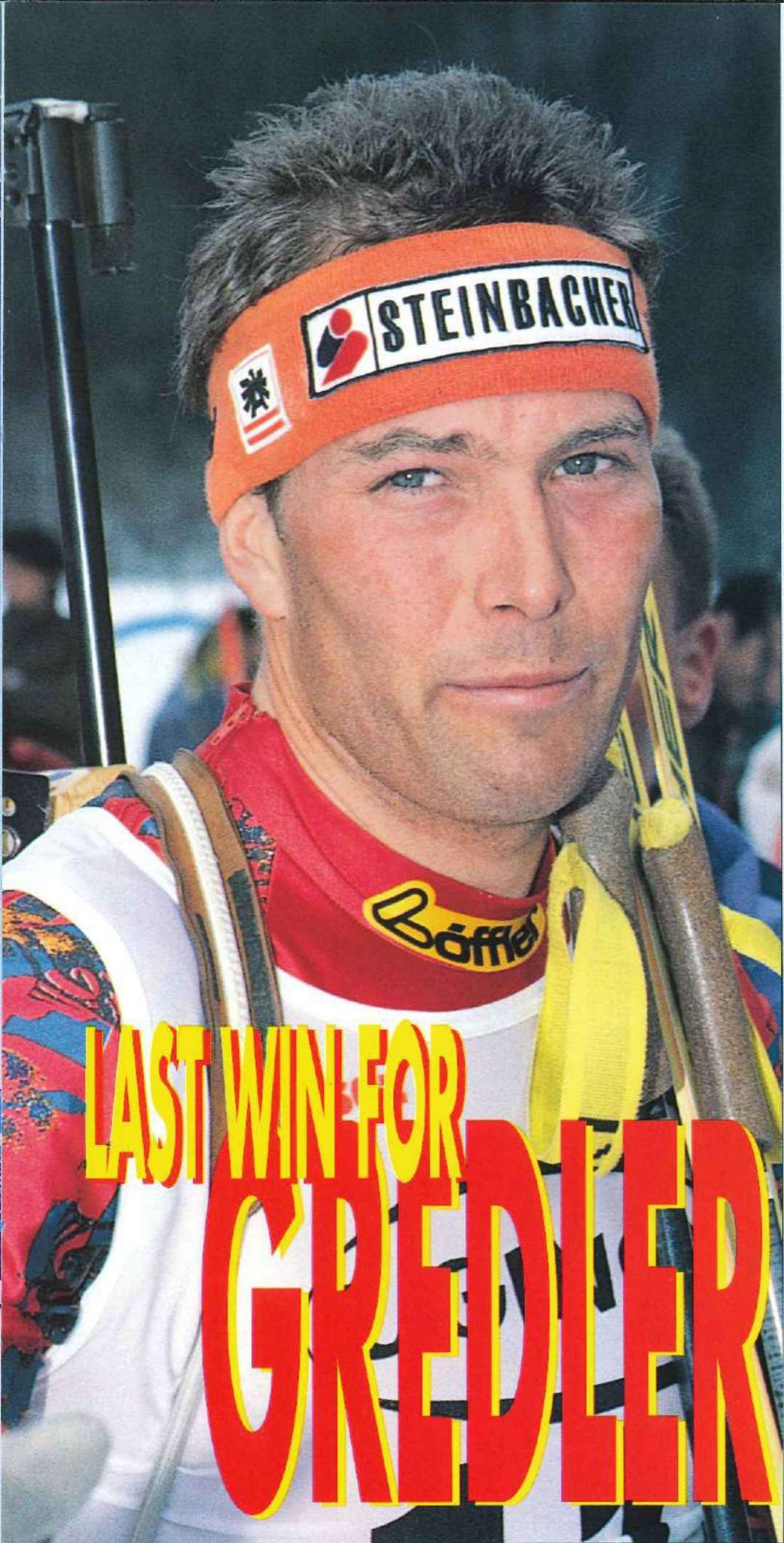
Stefanie Belmondo



Larissa Lazutina



Elena Vaelbe



LAST WIN FOR GREDLER

In CISM, the triathlon is dead and gone. Long live Gredler, its last winner. The lack of interest shown by all the delegations finally got the better of this discipline which, despite this, once again held spectators at the 38th World Ski Championship spellbound with an epilogue worthy of Hitchcock. Its staunchest supporters will be sorry to see it go, since it's true that this discipline is a happy combination of Alpine skiing, cross-country skiing and shooting, in other words some of the many skills that are so vital to the training of soldiers assigned to professional service in the mountains. Moreover, it has shaped many aces, who continue to distinguish themselves in cross-country skiing and biathlon. But the Permanent Technical Committee (PTC) reached its decision in all good conscience and it's true that the lack of enthusiasm for the potential registration of competitors for the next 1997 World Championships in Canada, will have done nothing to help the cause of the triathlon.

Even more reason to ceremoniously fete its last winner; a winner who is also a top athlete. Here is another man who, alongside his career in the triathlon, has literally shone in the biathlon here he is now becoming a true star. With four World Cup wins, Ludwig Gredler, a 27 year-old Tyrolean who lives in Innsbruck, has become one of the greats of the 10-kilometre event, in which he ended last season hot on the heels of Dratchev, the king of biathlon.

But Ludwig had decided to compete in one last CISM triathlon as, before the Grand-Bornand competition, he had admitted that this would be his last competition in this discipline, whatever the final decision of the PTC about keeping this special event, and determined to carry off his one and only title on this occasion.

At the end of the giant slalom, Ludwig Gredler had gained a substantial lead on the two-time world champion, Laurent Mandrillon. At just over two minutes behind, he shot off for his biathlon course, aware that every error in his shooting would cost a

150-metre penalty lap, marked out a hundred yards from the shooting range, and that, as in the Nordic combined event, the first to cross the finishing line would be the winner. And so the competitors dashed forward according to the interval calculated at the end of the giant slalom. This straight-line race is more spectacular and easier to follow than the version which is run «against the clock», where the spectator can hardly spot his athlete. The superb Austrian skier swooped on his prey. On the flat ground before the shooting range where the last of the two shots was to be made, the contrast was striking. When Laurent Mandrillon emerged from the shrubs into view, he was still almost two hundred metres ahead of Gredler. When, eight hundred metres later, he set himself up to shoot, Gredler had already joined him. Like a machine gun, Gredler lined up his shots and made two errors while Mandrillon, taking his time, made one. And when the two athletes had completed their penalty laps, Gredler, although having to complete an additional penalty circuit, showed Mandrillon the back tips of his skis. The two athletes disappeared from view for a final escapade into the surrounding area. By the time they reappeared five hundred metres from the finish line, Gredler had gained a slight lead over Mandrillon, an advantage that he easily increased in the final sprint. A few seconds after the finish, Gredler was already answering our questions, having completely recovered his breath, while Mandrillon had collapsed exhausted, face down in the snow, trying for several minutes and with great difficulty to get his breath back.

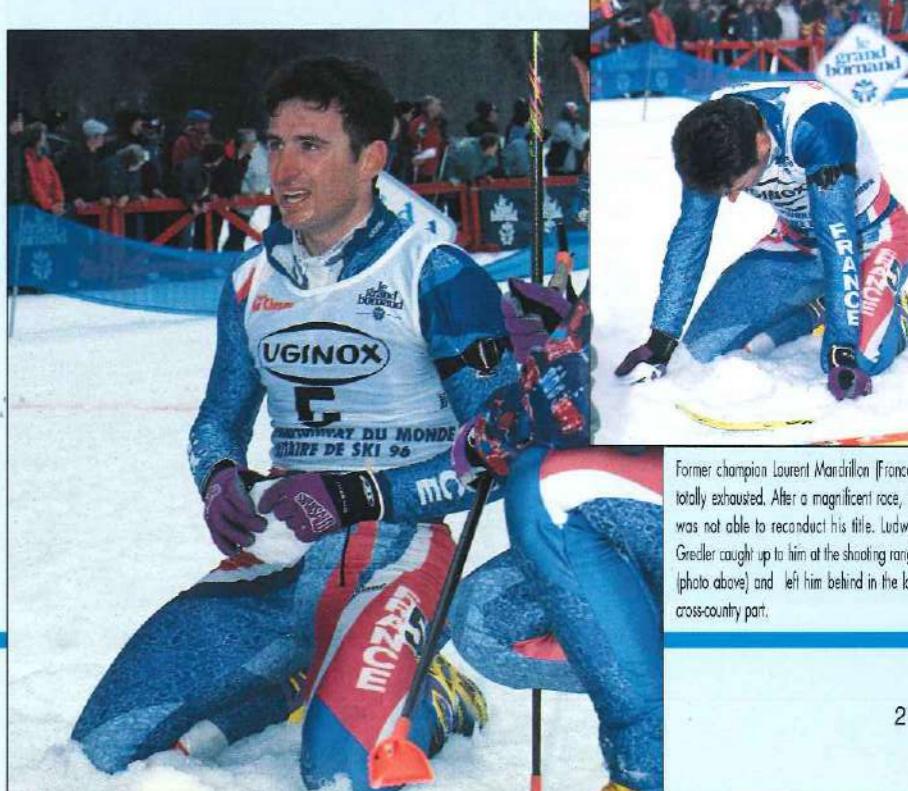
«I could have gone even faster», noted the winner, without being boastful. «I am a very good cross-country skier and when I caught up with Mandrillon, I knew very well that I would be alright. I calmly checked my position before sprinting over the last few metres. I'm particularly pleased to have won this title as I had only trained in Alpine skiing three times all year. But my progress in the

biathlon has been so rapid that I was able to let myself drop back a lot at the end of the first event.»

In any case, Gredler certainly kept up the suspense. The public enjoyed this immensely, even if it was hoping to witness a different outcome (a victory by its local favourite). But Gredler didn't care. He will now concentrate completely on biathlon. «I think I'll have to improve my shooting more and make it more consistent. I have my own individual style in that I shoot very, very rapidly. I mustn't change that pace because it has come about in a very natural way, but I will have to improve my accuracy sometimes. There's still plenty of room for

improvement as I didn't start biathlon until I was 19. You'll be seeing me again at all the World Cup events and, I hope, on the top step of the podium in Nagano. I also want to participate more in the 20-kilometre event because, up to now, I've achieved my best results in the so-called sprint (10 kilometres).»

Whereupon Gredler rushed off to celebrate, with his team, the team event title in triathlon to which he had made a masterful contribution. After three events in which this Marseilles native triumphed, the last event was Austria's and the final triathlon of the CISM programme went out to a Tyrolean tune. □



Former champion Laurent Mandrillon (France), totally exhausted. After a magnificent race, he was not able to reconquer his title. Ludwig Gredler caught up to him at the shooting range (photo above) and left him behind in the last cross-country part.



MEDECINE DU SPORT: QUID ?

Par le Docteur Peter JENOURE (SUI),
Président de la Commission Permanente
de Médecine Sportive.

Dans le milieu sportif surtout, on parle beaucoup, beaucoup trop même, de la médecine du sport (terme plus approprié que médecine sportive), sans pourtant que l'on sache toujours de quoi il est exactement question. Que faut-il donc entendre exactement sous ce terme ?

A la seule évocation de son nom, on observe très fréquemment chez son interlocuteur, surtout s'il est médecin, un air de surprise, souvent même de désapprobation. Médecin du sport ? Ah oui, le conseil médical de quelque célébrité du monde du show business sportif, un médecin exclusif partageant les salaires royaux de son patient ! Ou encore, le médecin attendant, au bord du terrain de sport, l'accident de son favori pour se

précipiter vers lui afin de lui administrer la piqûre qui lui permettra de reprendre la partie, grimaçant et souffrant ! Pire encore, pour ce partenaire mal informé, le médecin du sport est cet être sans scrupule qui administre, si possible sans le prévenir, des substances dopantes à l'athlète afin de lui permettre d'être «citus, fortius, altius»... Quoi de plus simple en tant qu'explication ?

Hélas, si le médecin du sport sérieux s'indigne de cette image qui est faite de lui, et qui ne correspond absolument pas à la réalité, pour aucune des interprétations, il faut bien admettre que cette façon de voir les choses n'est pas uniquement le fait de la mauvaise information ou du hasard. Indiscutablement, cette façon d'imaginer la médecine du sport et celui qui la pratique est supportée par les nombreux abus et excès commis en relation avec le sport de haute compétition, domaine fascinant certes, mais souvent gangrené par la présence de sommes d'argent astronomiques, de gens sans

scrupule, avides de gloire facile à cueillir, de personnages sans formation ni éducation suffisantes pour les tâches difficiles auxquelles ils sont confrontés. Le médecin du sport, et par conséquent toute la spécialité médicale pour laquelle il s'engage, est donc la victime d'un préjugé qui n'est pas facile à renverser. Qui est-il donc, ce médecin au-dessus de tous soupçons, et que fait-il donc pour ne pas mériter tous les qualificatifs peu élogieux qu'on peut lui adresser ? Qu'en est-il exactement de cette discipline dont on parle tant, voire même trop ?

Au contraire d'autres spécialités qui s'attachent à un organe particulier ou à une catégorie de personnes bien déterminées, la médecine du sport, tout comme la médecine générale, se destine à trouver des solutions aux problèmes médicaux du pratiquant sportif, quel que soit son âge, son sexe ou son niveau d'activité. La médecine du sport est une activité par définition pluridisciplinaire où les connaissances spécifiques des

diverses spécialités médicales conventionnelles ainsi que des enseignements provenant du monde du sport (méthodologie de l'entraînement par exemple) convergent au service du pratiquant sportif afin de lui permettre de réaliser, sans danger pour sa santé, à l'idéal même au bénéfice de celle-ci, des performances toujours meilleures.

Pour atteindre cet objectif, la médecine du sport doit agir avant l'installation de la pathologie, et son rôle est donc autant de prévention que thérapeutique. N'oublions pas dans cette définition le rôle important de la médecine du sport dans la prise en charge de malades chroniques qui peuvent tirer d'importants bénéfices d'une activité corporelle adaptée.

De ce fait, l'éventail des matières à connaître en médecine du sport est particulièrement large, et l'énumération qui va suivre n'est peut-être même pas exhaustive : biométrie, biomécanique, notions de techniques d'entraînement, physiologie de l'effort physique, y compris les problèmes relatifs au dopage, diététique, anatomie fonctionnelle, notions de cardiologie et de pneumologie en relation avec le sport, notions de neurophysiologie et de physiologie musculaire, hygiène en rapport avec le sport, éléments de médecine légale mis en jeu par les activités sportives et les compétitions, notions de psychologie, de physiothérapie en rapport avec le sport; indications et contre-indications de sport, y compris la pratique de ce dernier chez le malade et le handicapé; traumatologie du sport enfin, en pratique probablement la plus demandée malheureusement. Pour finir, un élément particulièrement important, souvent ignoré et négligé, la prévention, que cela soit la prévention par ou dans le sport.

Cette énumération suggère quelques analogies avec la médecine générale: cette spécialité exige également de son titulaire des connaissances très variées, dans toute une série de domaines médicaux. Comme le généraliste, le vrai

médecin du sport doit être en mesure d'effectuer un test médico-sportif avec évaluation physiologique des capacités de l'athlète pour passer ensuite au traitement d'une blessure occasionnée par la pratique du sport, en considérant dans ce traitement tous les problèmes de la rééducation qui permettront de limiter au maximum la perte de capacité de performance sans entraver la guérison. Il utilisera peut-être pour cela des médicaments et devra tenir compte des frontières entre cette pharmacologie thérapeutique et celle illégale touchant au dopage. Il aura ensuite à fournir des conseils diététiques à un marathonien, ou à évaluer avec une patiente enceinte les possibilités de pratique du sport pendant la grossesse.

Dans chaque situation, il fera appel à des connaissances rarement enseignées lors d'une formation conventionnelle. On touche ainsi le point capital de la médecine du sport, le nerf de la guerre même, le problème de la formation. Il est indispensable, en médecine du sport comme dans toute autre spécialité, que chaque médecin prenne conscience de la responsabilité qu'il a vis-à-vis de ses patients-sportifs. Car

on ne traite pas un patient-sportif de la même manière que l'on traite un sédentaire. Il est clair que les principes de base de chaque discipline médicale restent absolument valables en médecine du sport aussi, mais l'esprit dans lequel ils sont appliqués change radicalement. Le sportif est un être qui connaît son corps, le sent, en a beaucoup, intensément, puissamment, rapidement besoin. Ces exigences imposent une attitude spécifique, active, dynamique, même si elle doit rester rigoureuse et responsable. Cette attitude s'apprend. La médecine du sport a eu à souffrir longtemps des approximations de ceux qui prétendaient la pratiquer, et cette situation désagréable n'a pas encore totalement disparu aujourd'hui.

Pour ces raisons, et d'autres encore, la médecine du sport cherche son identité, et ceci à travers le monde entier. Elle a cessé d'être un passe-temps pour devenir une occupation sérieuse, sans pour autant gagner la reconnaissance qu'elle mériteraient lorsqu'elle est bien pratiquée. Mais peut-être est-ce justement à cause de cet état encore instable que la discipline est tellement passionnante. □





LE MAROC SUR SES TERRES

En choisissant le Maroc comme terre d'asile des 44èmes championnats du monde militaire de cross-country, le CISM mettait le pied sur le continent-roi de la discipline. Les championnats du monde civil qui avaient livré leur verdict une semaine plus tôt à Stellenbosch (Afrique du Sud) en avaient fait, une fois de plus, la preuve la plus éclatante : de l'Africain sur toute la ligne et dans tous les classements. Désormais, le cross-country planétaire se résume à une lutte continentale où Kenyans, Ethiopiens et Marocains s'arrachent les podiums, et presqu'à coup sûr, les quinze premières places de toutes les compétitions dans les labourés.

De notre envoyé spécial, Marc Vandenplas
Reportage photographique Dirk De Vos

Alors que le printemps faisait son apparition ensoleillée et que le pays, les pieds encore dans l'eau, se remettait avec peine des terribles inondations hivernales, l'hippodrome de Souissi, situé en plein cœur de Rabat, la capitale du Maroc, s'était paré de ses plus beaux atours pour accueillir les 26 nations participantes de cet incontournable rendez-vous.

Si, à première vue, le parcours plat dessiné dans cet immense fief du sprint chevalin avait toutes les allures d'un tapis roulant pour crossmen réputés, la réalité fut tout autre. Parce que d'une part, un vent décoiffant soufflait, telle une turbine, de plein fouet dans le visage des athlètes qui se succédaient dans l'interminable ligne droite qui n'offrait, d'autre abri ou refuge possible, qu'une position calfeutrée au sein d'un peloton. Parce que d'autre part, le sable qui pointait au milieu de touffes herbeuses poussant d'une manière anarchique venait alourdir des mollets déjà envahis par l'acide lactique.

Et enfin, parce que nos pur-sang du jour n'avaient que des spikes à se mettre sous le pied alors que les sabots des habituels hôtes des lieux avaient laissé, inondations aidant, des stigmates indélébiles sous la

forme de trous. Autant de chaussetrappes potentiels pour les chevilles des militaires galopant à la conquête de l'or.

Pas de doute donc, ceux qui allaient émerger devaient faire preuve d'un savoir-faire et d'une classe au-dessus de tout soupçon, d'une cheville solide et d'un pied chevalin, à défaut d'être marin, et d'une puissance digne de défier Eole en personne.

A ce petit jeu, le pays hôte est toujours le plus favorisé puisqu'il connaît les moindres recoins de son jardin. De plus le Maroc possède des traditions séculaires dans les domaines du cross et du demi-fond, ces deux disciplines s'interpénétrant sans coup férir. Dès lors, les ambitions marocaines étaient clairement affichées et, a posteriori, nullement présomptueuses : accomplir le grand chelem : classements individuels et interéquipes confondus. En l'absence du grand favori, le Kenya, et de son chef de file, le Sergent Paul Tergat, qui avaient dominé la planète cross à Stellenbosch, le pari était à relever.

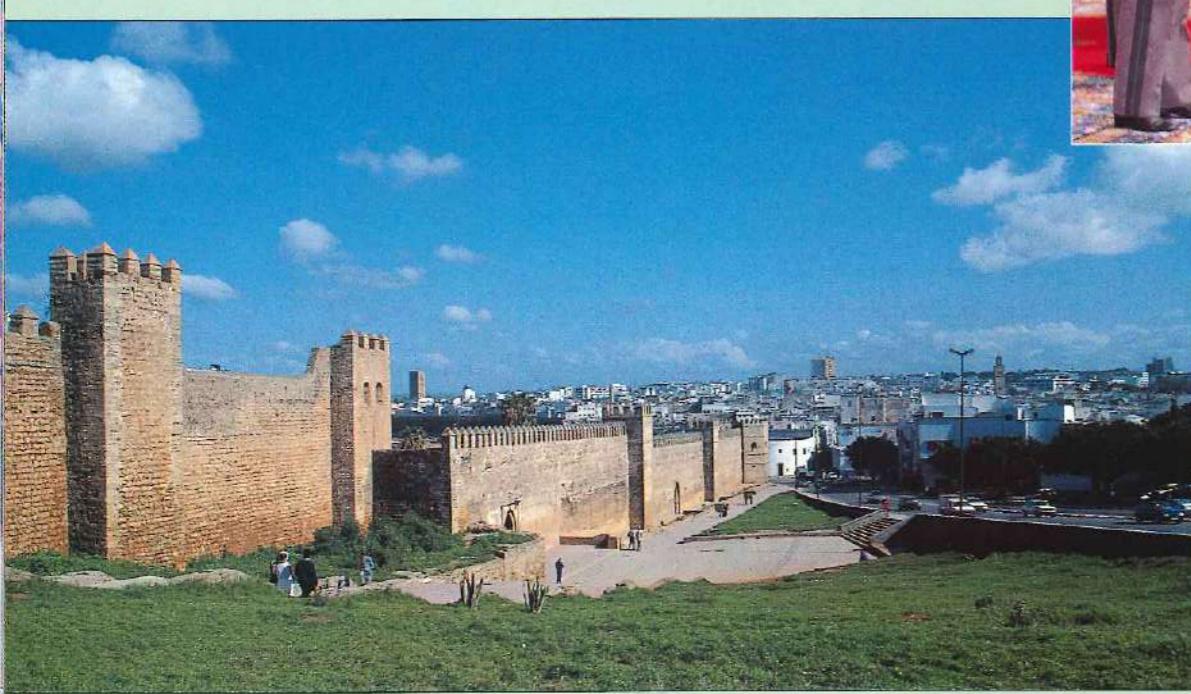
Et, si finalement, il ne fut rempli qu'à moitié (trois titres sur les six mis en jeu), cela n'enlèvera rien au talent des athlètes et des organisateurs marocains qui en ont fait largement plus qu'il n'en fallait, pour asseoir, ou



Photo du haut : Le Colonel Gola (Italie) à l'avant-plan et les hautes autorités lors de la remise des médailles.

Le prince Sidi Mohammed accueille le représentant officiel du CISM, le Colonel Oueslati (Tunisie), lors de la réception donnée à l'occasion de la cérémonie d'ouverture.

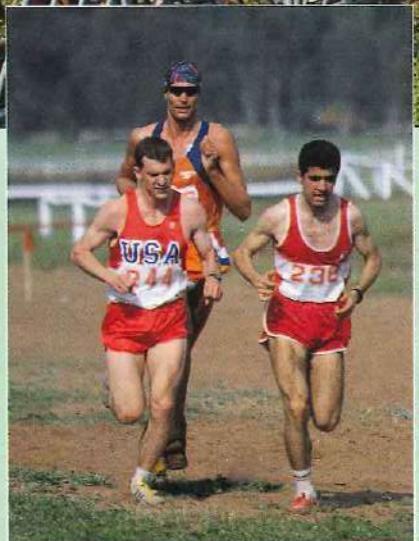
Vue sur la Kasbah des Oudaias.



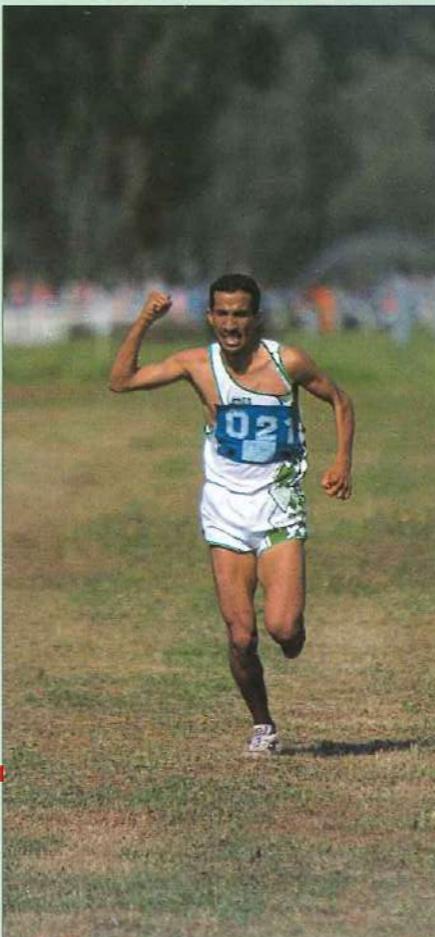
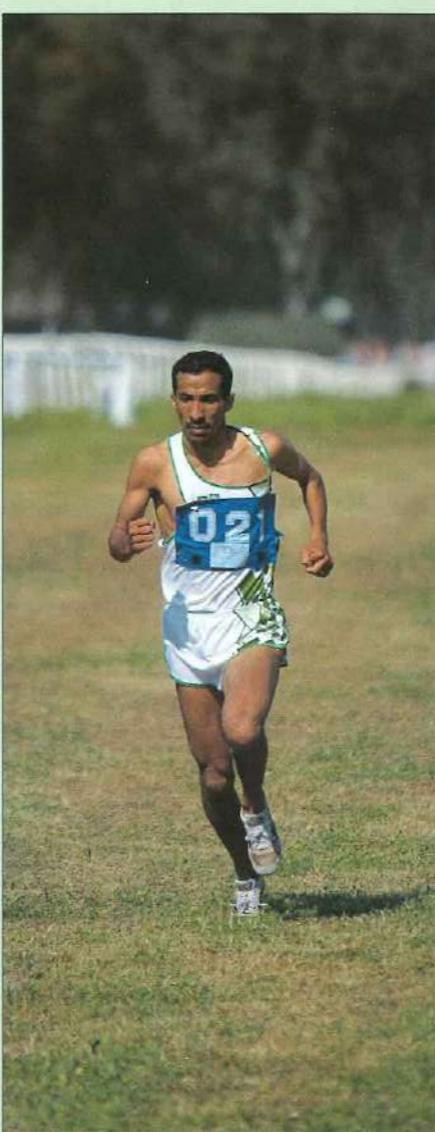
plutôt confirmer, la réputation de leur pays. Le Prince Sidi Mohammed, fils du roi Hassan II, présent à la cérémonie d'ouverture, pourra en témoigner.

Bamouh et son dauphin, Hamou Boutayeb le vétéran, l'équipe masculine de cross-long et son homologue féminine ont perpétré la tradition marocaine : quant aux autres autochtones, ils ont dû

s'incliner contre plus forts qu'eux. Et en l'occurrence face à des adversaires qui, comme la Belge Anja Smolders, le Saoudien Al Qahtani et l'équipe italienne du cross-court ont une carte de visite déjà impressionnante. Même s'il se doit de rester maître sur ses terres, le pays hôte a le devoir de partager le festin avec ses invités. Et Allah sait combien le Maroc est un pays hospitalier! □ M.V.



Ali takes to the Air



Having taken 2nd place in the 10,000-meter at the First Military World Games in Rome, Saudi Ali Alyan Al Qathani blew out the scoreboards in Rabat during the short cross. His prodigious acceleration at the start of the first lap (so much that some thought he mistook this for the final sprint of the final lap), and the world title was in the bag. At the age of 25, Ali is amassing some more than respectable performances with his

28:04:00 in the 10,000-meter. On his agenda, the Grand Prix IAAF and the Olympics. His hopes? A place in the finals at Atlanta, and a time of around 27:20 this season.

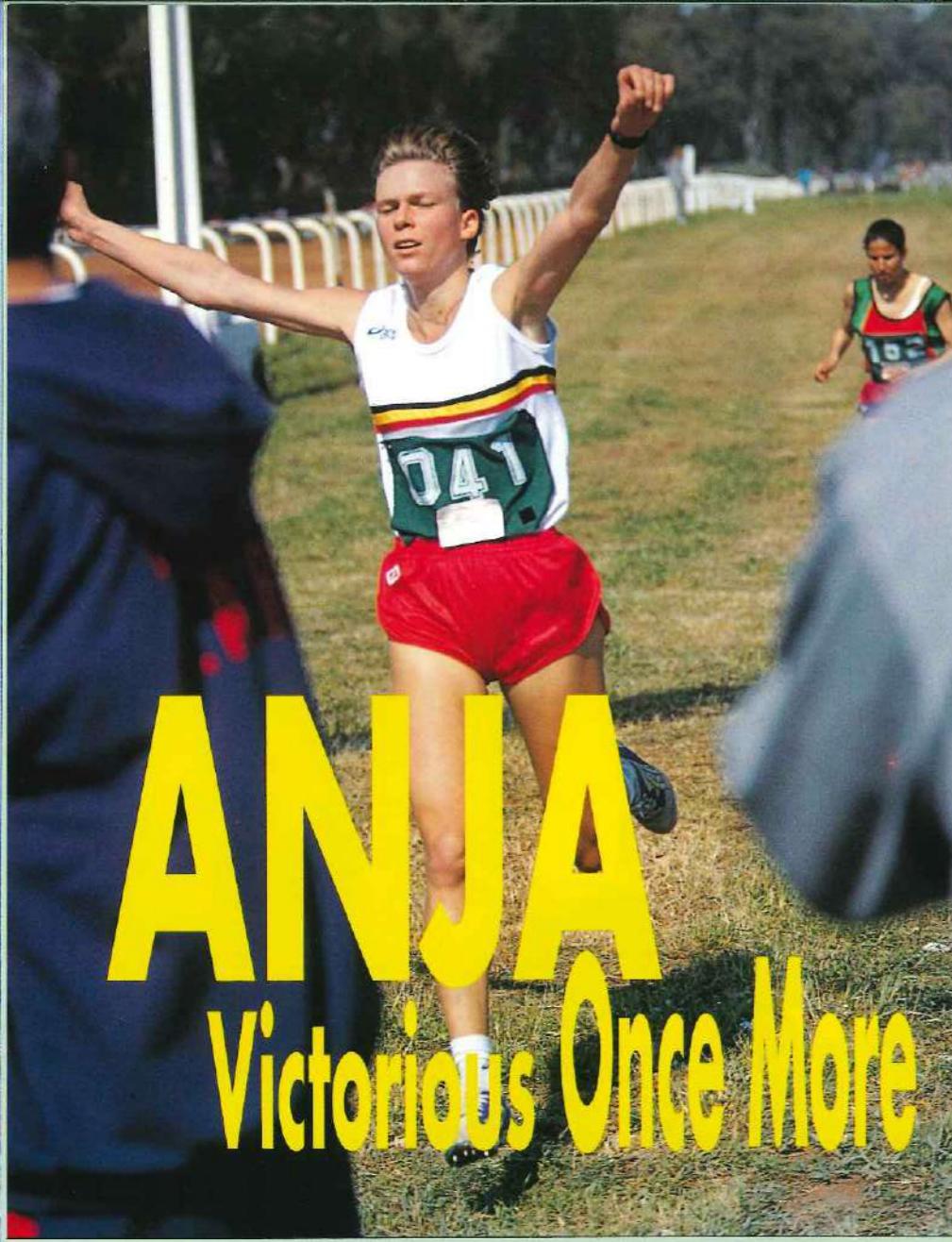
His ambitions? Unlimited. There's no reason, he says, that he shouldn't be able to run as fast as the Kenyans since, like them, he trains at high altitudes daily in those French Pyrenees lands of Abha and Font-Romeu, where the air is enlivening and the oxygen is rare. When we told you he took to the air... □

corporate networks

Integrated communications.

The right side of the page features a large graphic illustration. It includes a green and blue globe with a grid pattern, a woman with dark hair wearing a headset and a purple jacket, a blue computer monitor with a yellow screen, a red telephone, and a man in a green suit standing on a yellow grid. The text "corporate networks" is at the top, and "Integrated communications." is below it. The Kapsch logo, consisting of three stylized 'K' shapes followed by the word "KAPSCH" and the tagline "the communications company", is located at the bottom right. Below the logo, there is a block of text about corporate networks and their integration.

The communication of tomorrow is part of the global village. All the communications equipment, such as the telephone, fax, portable computer, PC and mainframe is integrated in the corporate network. Tailormade solutions that will grow in step with future requirements support interactive, multimedia voice and data communication. The cabling systems and communication highways for these solutions come from Kapsch. If you would like to know more about them, contact Kapsch AG, Wagenseilgasse 1, A-1121 Vienna, Austria, tel: (+43 1) 811110.



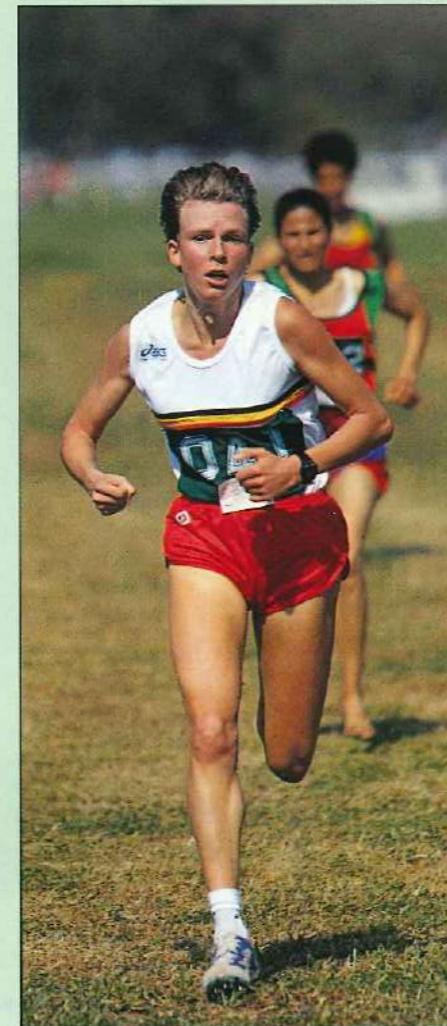
ANJA Victorious Once More

It goes without saying that Anja Smolders is made of the military world championship in cross, an event which she rarely misses. A 1993 title in Holland, and again the next year at Curragh (Ireland), an eclipsing performance in 1995 in Jacksonville, and here she is again on the highest step of the podium in Rabat. An even more astonishing and impressive feat, given that the Belgian crosswoman is only 22 years old! Faced with an imposing Moroccan who absolutely wanted to take the individual title, it was necessary to have one's feet firmly planted on the ground to win. Anja Smolders performed the race as the entire Belgian delegation had hoped she would, pleasing the team's

coach, famed Edgar Salve, who had advised her to win it. Always in the outposts, but placed, sheltered from the beastly wind in a crowd of Moroccans decided not to let any other competitor decide the pace of the race, Anja was happy to follow the leading pack. Even with an elevated pace which the formidable Italians, who we had seen perform well in Jacksonville, were forced to give up on one by one. And 500 meters from the finish, when Klilech, a Moroccan, put on a deadly acceleration, Anja didn't panic: she wouldn't let her adversary take more than 2 paces' advantage. At 200 meters from the finish, Anja kicked into overdrive, swallowing Klilech while flying towards victory: «Everything happened just as

planned. I sheltered myself during the entire race, because the wind was really strong. When Klilech took off, I wasn't worried because I still felt very strong. But my God, was that a difficult terrain: it was pitted with holes left by horses' hooves. Constant concentration had to be dedicated to avoid falling. In these conditions, it is always difficult to keep an ideal stride as well as a regular pace. This victory comes at just the right time: it tops off a season during which I regained my spirit. The previous season had been the pits: constant disappointments, and I didn't really know why. I was beginning to doubt my abilities.»

It is true that, among her military titles, Anja Smolders, for whom we had predicted a successful international career, didn't really live out the promises that a magnificent 5th place in the world junior cross championship in Boston and ninth



place in the 3,000-meter final for the same event in Seoul hadn't failed to predict. And in this Limburger's regime, trained in Duffel by retired Belgian medium-distance racer Andre Boon, we find no traces of those things that generally explain the failure of such talented competitors: not even the slightest lack of seriousness in training, or, quite the opposite, harmful over-ambitious training patterns which so often prematurely burn out young talent destined for stardom.

Could it be that the Belgian, sharing the common worry of her trainer that no steps should be skipped, is fixing some restraining limits on her talent, which is so universally recognized? Because when she seems satisfied with 65th place during the previous world civilian championships at Stellenbosch: «The best placement I've achieved in the pros,» she

announces with satisfaction. «And better yet, obtained despite a horrific heat, even though I detest warm temperatures», and that she pictures a place among the top 30 for the future, we can say that although she is certainly a realist, maybe she's not placing the limit high enough!

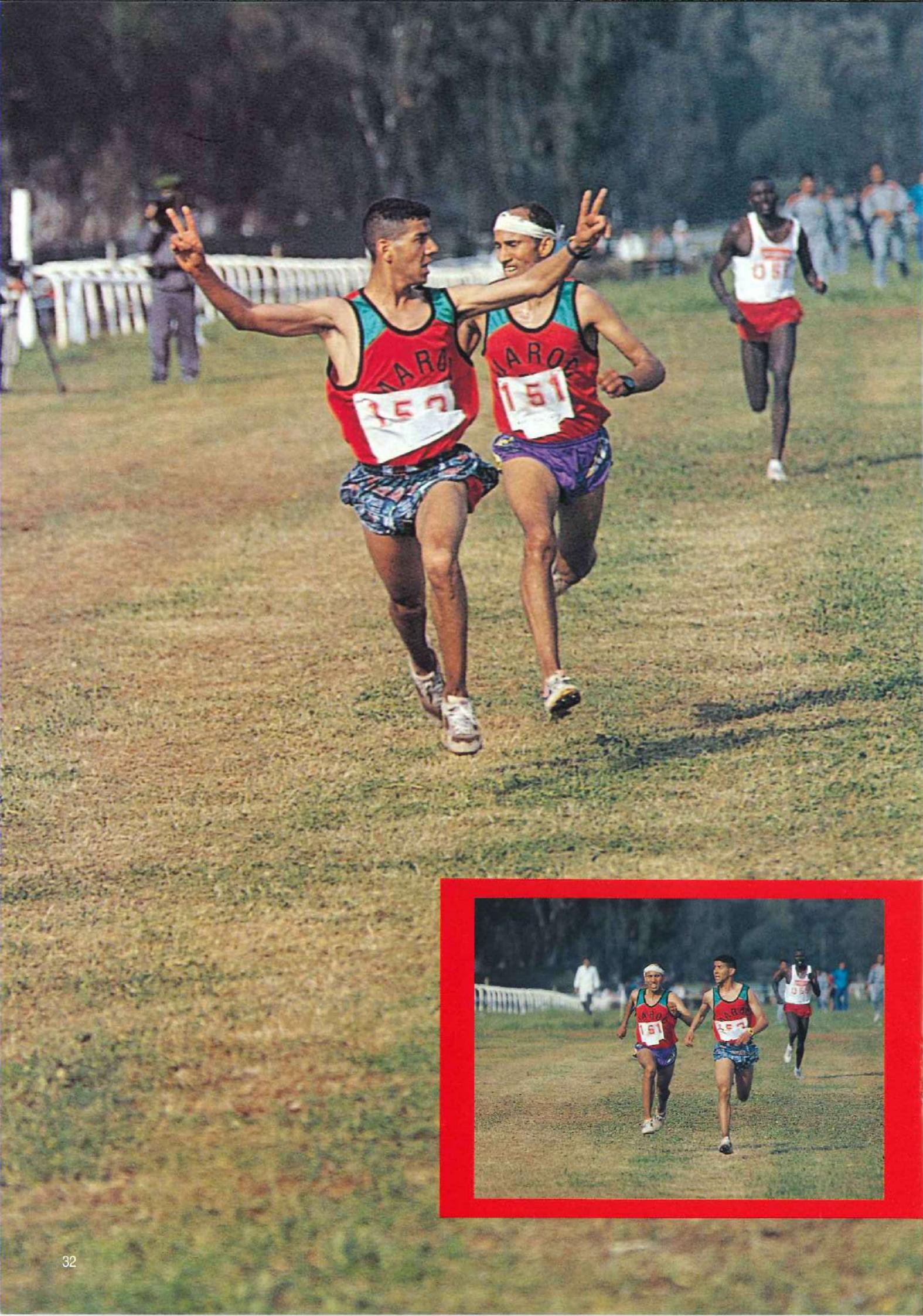
Be that as it may, she demonstrated outstanding merit, showing her best even just a few short days after Stellenbosch and only 48 hours after wearisome flight travel.

«I feel mentally strong - stronger than I've ever felt before. Compared to last season, I think that is what has changed, because I haven't changed my training one iota!»

A head well-placed on her shoulders, and a new and beautiful spirit: there's Anja, starting off on good footing

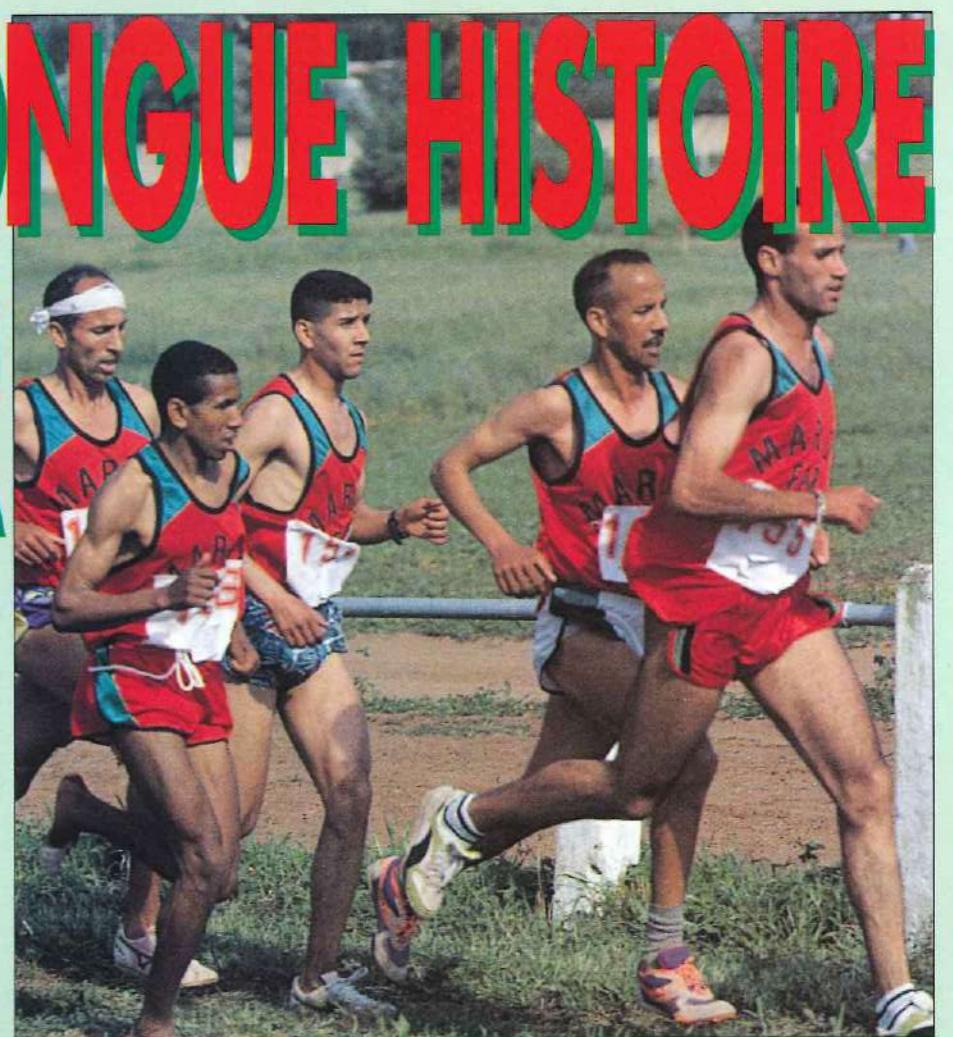
towards, let's hope, the heights of planetary cross. □ M.V.





UNE LONGUE HISTOIRE D'AMOUR

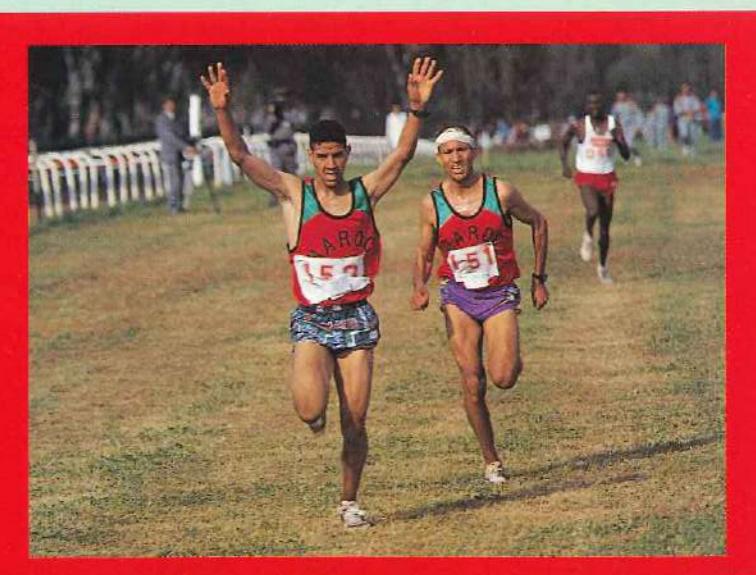
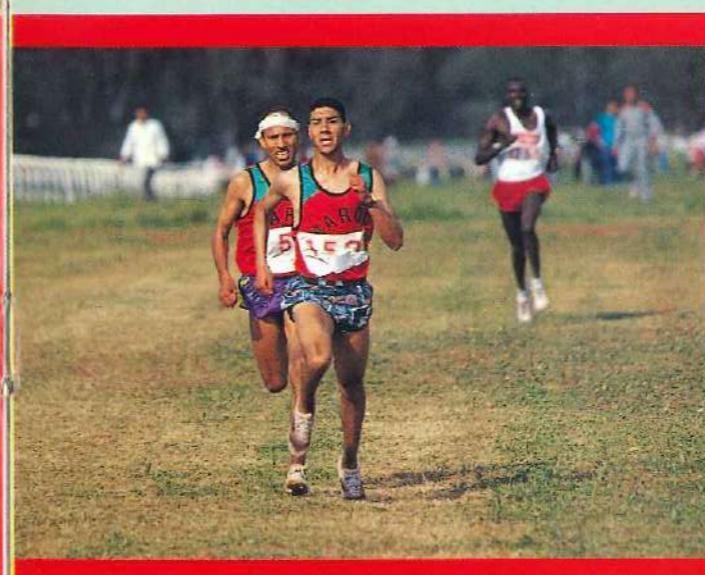
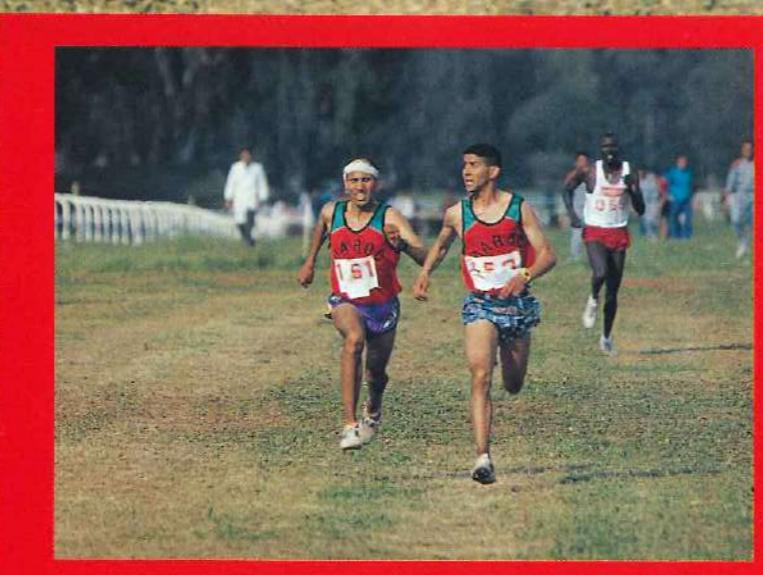
Le Maroc a inscrit, en 1962, pour la première fois son nom sur les tablettes des compétitions de cross du CISM, à l'occasion de l'épreuve la plus longue : depuis cette victoire en interéquipes, les Maghrébins ont squatté le podium du cross long avec assiduité. Dix-huit victoires en interéquipes alliées à onze victoires individuelles ont fait du pays du nord de l'Afrique le ténor de cette compétition. Sans que l'on ne comprenne vraiment pourquoi, cette suprématie ne s'est jamais traduite dans le cross court. Toujours est-il que cette longue histoire d'amour explique sans doute l'empressement des dirigeants marocains à vouloir organiser les championnats du monde sur leur sol :



c'était en effet la quatrième fois que le gratin du sport militaire mondial se réunissait à Rabat.

Si les coureurs locaux n'ont pas réussi le grand chelem tellement escompté, ils ont néanmoins occupé tous les

podiums de la journée, démontrant à nouveau, dans le cross long, une suprématie sans partage. Tout au long des 12 kilomètres disputés sur un hippodrome gagné à la cause locale, l'entraîneur de l'équipe nationale ne cessait de prodiguer ses



Le film du sprint final du cross long : les 23 ans et la vélocité de Mustapha Bamoul ont raison du merveilleux quadragénaire Hammou Boutayeb. Les Marocains se sont montrés irrésistibles sur leurs terres.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS ON

The sporting summer is promising to be scorching hot. And for a good reason since, in the sweltering summer heat that descends annually on Atlanta, the capital of the State of Georgia, the Olympic Games will celebrate their hundredth anniversary. It's now already - or only - a century since the first Olympic Games were held in Athens. For a long time, the Greeks had been hoping that this sumptuous anniversary was going to be celebrated with glassfuls of Ouzo in the shade of the Parthenon walls. But the all-powerful International Olympic Committee and its delegates democratically decided otherwise - and Greece, birthplace of democracy, will be the last to complain about that. This anniversary will be celebrated with Coca Cola bubbles. Because it will be the bottles so dear to the big, loyal sponsor of the Olympic movement that will be drained in the Mecca of the fizzy drink. Nowadays sport has its commercial constraints and interests, which leave little room for feelings of nostalgia any more.

One hundred years later, Baron de Coubertin would probably not recognise his baby, delivered in 1896 within a very small circle. The handful of journalists present in Athens has turned into a throng of thousands of journalists, photographers and audiovisual experts. The number of people taking part in the huge meeting in Georgia will have risen equally sharply. Because the Summer Olympics have become the essential international event, the one which captures the whole world's attention every four years.

The famous saying, «It's the taking part that counts», is now a thing of the past and has become completely obsolete. But Baron de Coubertin, who was perhaps quoted out of context, would not be offended at all. True or feigned amateurism and concealed professionalism are now a thing of the past. Now all the cream of international sport, with few exceptions, will be present in Atlanta, professionals and amateurs alongside each other. The Olympic Games have become the inevitable route of all the disciplines. The NBA, which is sending its Dream Team to fight for Olympic Gold, has got it right. Most of the international federations of disciplines not represented in the Olympic programme are hammering on the doors of the IOC in Lausanne, clamoring to be part of the show.

Broadcast for hours at a time on all the world's channels that have paid the ever-increasing broadcasting fees, the images of the Olympic winners will take precedence over

usual news; another reason for all the countries to do well in Atlanta. The medals will not only be for sports; used intelligently over the space of the fortnight, they will make people forget the daily problems and their usual criticism of power. Because, for once, an

almost natural consensus will prevail, even for non sports fans. For a fortnight, the eyes of almost the whole world will be on Georgia. Wars and daily disasters will no longer be the main headlines on the television news or in the spoken or written press. They will take second place to the Utopian dream of an Olympic truce.

One hundred years later... free rein will be given to traditional feelings of patriotism, no more and no less exaggerated than before. The host country will try, as at every Olympics, to win as many gold medals as possible. And although, as one century ago, there will no longer be a Spiridon Louis suspected of having won the marathon with the assistance, as effective as it was brief, of a motorised vehicle, not one day will pass without a close result pronounced in favour of the host country being subjected to suspicion or called into question.

One hundred years later... the last Summer Olympics of the twentieth century; with big deals of hundreds of thousands of sponsors, Red and White publicity and television control, and with the spectre of illegal drug-use as an unpleasant backdrop. Because, in this modern-day gold rush, the end seems to justify the means for many.

And gestures of fair play become so few and far between that they are given more media attention than others. And we would be very pleased for any number of CISM athletes to fall into this all-too underestimated category. We have already come to expect their presence at the top of the winners' podium. Let's hope they also make the most of this to universally promote our motto, «Friendship through Sport». One hundred years on... we can't wait to see Carl Lewis with one last gold medal; Bubka flying over the roof of the Olympic stadium from his magic vaulting pole; Popov and Pankratov cutting, with their incomparable style, through the Georgian foam; Michael Johnson carrying off the 200-400 metre double; Dream Team 3 besieged by a triumphant Yugoslavia and Croatia, the French «Barjots» (crazies) contesting the handball final against the implacable Swedes; with those same Scandinavians battling out a table tennis dual against China; and Pete Sampras relinquishing the ATP's millions for the Olympic Gold... a list of feats that could almost go on forever. But, on behalf of all sports enthusiasts, let's thank Pierre de Coubertin. One hundred years later, the Olympic dream is even more alive than ever; it has become universal. □



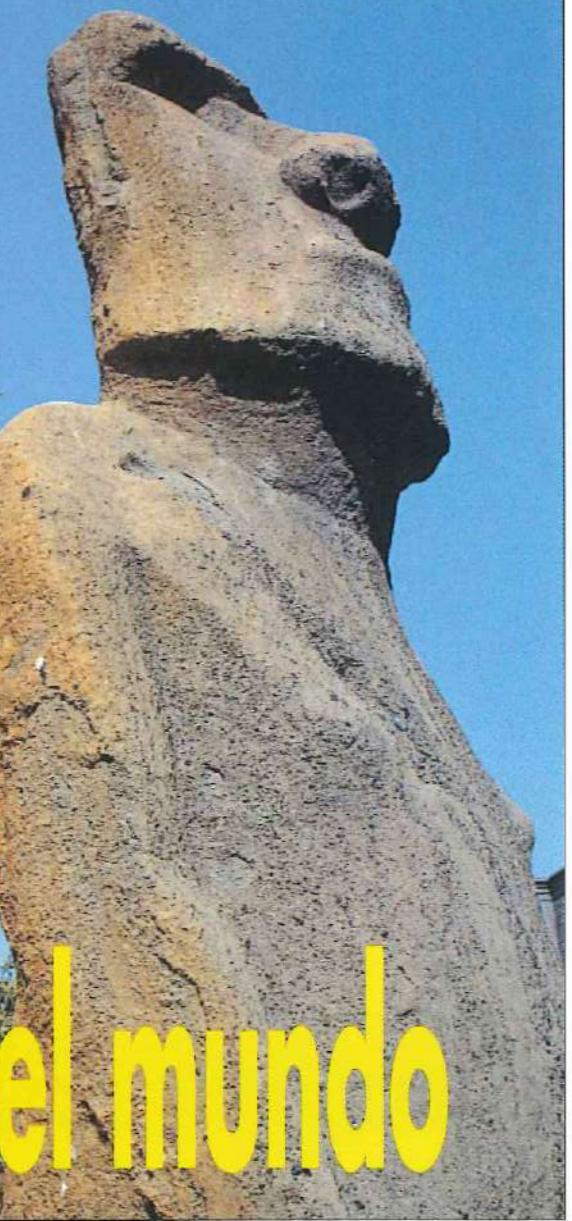
Viaje al fin del mundo

Reportaje fotográfico: Dirk De Vos

De nuestro enviado especial en
Santiago de Chile
Dominique Delvigne

Nuestro hermoso planeta oculta todavía magníficos parajes impregnados de belleza, de magia, de misterio incluso. Estos lugares extraordinarios despiertan la admiración de muchos de nosotros. Así, algunos de nosotros confiesan una atracción no disimulada por las cadenas montañosas imponentes, otros no resisten a la láguida llamada de las playas paradisíacas; hay quienes, por último, se quedan sin habla frente a la infinitud del desierto.

Nunca, desde que el CISM anda



trotando mundo por los cuatro continentes, sus miembros habían podido descubrir una región tan asombrosa. Todo es allí sorprendente. Mientras la mitad del mundo acaba de recibir a la primavera con los brazos abiertos, los chilenos se sumergen, a mal tiempo buena cara, en pleno otoño. Pero para la mayoría de ellos el calor del recién desaparecido verano está todavía bien presente. En las voces, sin duda. Para convencerse, nada mejor que un paseo nocturno por los alrededores de la Plaza de Armas, en pleno corazón de Santiago. En efecto, a cualquier hora del día o de la noche, los grupos folclóricos se suceden en esta calle peatonal. La música es fuente de vida en Chile, acompaña a un pueblo entero que no puede prescindir de ella. En los recovecos de las callejuelas débilmente iluminadas, encontramos algunos turistas. Crepitán los flashes de sus Canon. Sus pies martillean el suelo, sus rostros se iluminan... y los cassettes que graban estos trovadores de la noche se venden como rosquillas. Las notas que escapan de sus zampoñas nos reconfortan unos instantes todavía. El extrañamiento es total. Sudamérica se revela en sus canciones.

Al día siguiente, sin embargo, la imponente estructura del centro de convenciones Diego Portales, sede de las reuniones de la Asamblea General, nos devuelve brutalmente a la realidad. No se equivoquen. No es que nadie lamente el encuentro anual de los miembros de la gran familia del CISM. Pero la reunión masiva de las 70 naciones presentes en Santiago contrasta un poco con la intimidad de la serenata de la víspera. Setenta naciones presentes, más tres naciones invitadas a afiliarse (Colombia, Ecuador y Malawi).

No hemos batido récords de asistencia, pero el índice de presencia ha sido importante. El CISM no escapa a la crisis económica que afecta al mundo entero. En este sentido, debe resaltarse el esfuerzo realizado por naciones más desfavorecidas para acudir a Santiago. Es cierto que, este

año, la Asamblea General tenía una importancia especial. Tras los primeros Juegos Mundiales, los debates sobre los siguientes se anunciaban subidos de tono. La situación es paradójica. Todo el mundo se felicita por la primera experiencia de los Juegos de Roma pero pocos candidatos acuden a la puerta del CISM para prestarse a organizar los de 1999.

Conciudadadamente, el Comité Ejecutivo ha tomado buena nota de las consideraciones y observaciones sobre la experiencia romana de las naciones participantes. Ha dado plenos poderes al Presidente, el Secretario General y el Coronel Gola para hacer las gestiones necesarias con los candidatos a organizadores. Se espera una decisión para antes de la segunda reunión del Comité Ejecutivo en noviembre.

Dos despedidas emocionaron considerablemente a la Asamblea. Dos personalidades, dos hombres de gran atractivo que, sobre todo gracias a lo gráfico de su lenguaje, marcaron al CISM. El coronel Joseph Potin (Senegal), fiel servidor del CISM desde 1983, y el coronel BEM Marc Mignon (Bélgica) presente desde 1989. Dos vicepresidentes, pues, se han despedido. Sus sucesores son también de noble traza: el Teniente Coronel Malboum Kalkaba (Camerún) y el Coronel Gianni Gola (Italia) no necesitan ya presentación.

Saludemos, por último, la llegada de tres nuevos rostros, el Coronel R. Cleymans (Bélgica), el Jefe de Batallón H. Traoré (Burkina Faso) y el Contraalmirante A. Ledesma (Argentina).

Si los Juegos Mundiales no motivaron grandes decisiones, no puede decirse lo mismo de la ascensión al Monte Camerún, rebautizada como Carrera de la Esperanza. El CISM se ha comprometido a sostener financieramente la prueba durante los tres próximos años. La fórmula será tal vez modificada para favorecer la participación norteafricana. Sin embargo, todo el mundo está de acuerdo en decir que el Monte Camerún debe ser explotado de forma profesional e inscribirse en una política deportiva, de información y

de marketing a largo plazo. Por ello, la Asamblea ha requerido finalmente los servicios de una agencia de marketing profesional, Dialogic (Bélgica) para desarrollar, en comisión con el Secretariado General Permanente, los futuros proyectos.

Sport International no se extenderá más sobre los otros puntos debatidos durante la quincena chilena. El Secretariado de Bruselas acaba de terminar las actas previstas a tal efecto. Las miradas se vuelven ya hacia el continente africano, que estará en primera línea en 1997. Camerún en primer lugar, por la exigente ascensión del Monte Camerún prevista en Buéa para el 8 de febrero de 1997. Togo a continuación, a lo largo del mes de mayo, por la 52^a Asamblea General. La elección de Lomé dejará un regusto amargo a la delegación italiana que había depositado su candidatura para acoger al CISM en Roma. Esperemos que la legítima decepción de la delegación italiana se quede sólo en un mal recuerdo.

En el momento de dejar Santiago, los rostros se crisparon. Un momento de tristeza pasó por los ojos de todos. Y es que, más allá de las riquezas culturales de Chile, la acogida, la amabilidad natural de los chilenos nos han marcado a casi todos nosotros. Hemos encontrado en Santiago a un pueblo alegre y

A.G. CHILE

hospitalario, aunque una franja de la población sufre una tremenda pobreza que se traduce en la presencia a las puertas de la ciudad de poblaciones de chabolas superpobladas. Pero Chile nos ha ofrecido la imagen de un pueblo unido, capaz de escuchar con atención a los problemas del vecino, e incluso de tenderle la mano para ayudarlo. De modo que nuestro viaje al fin del mundo no ha sido en vano. □



Coronel Joseph Potin (Senegal), vice-presidente por África



Journey to the end of the earth



**From our special correspondent
in Santiago de Chile**
Dominique Delvigne

Our wonderful planet still has magnificent secret places full of beauty, magic and even mystery. These extraordinary sites inspire awe in many of us. Some of us, for example, admit to an unashamed attraction to imposing mountain chains, others cannot resist the languorous calls of heavenly beaches, while still others are left speechless by the sight of infinite expanses of desert. We had often dreamed of travelling all over a country which could offer, within its own borders, this complete diversity of landscapes and cultures. This year, that dream came true. Meeting in Santiago de Chile, the participants of CISM's 51st General Assembly converged on a country with many different faces; a country of full of contrasts. But judge for yourself. Covering a length of almost 4,200 kilometres, Chile's territory is delimited to the north by a desert brimming with geysers, each more boiling than the next, to the west by the mythical Pacific Ocean, to the east by the majestic Andes Cordillera and to the south by

countless glaciers and Patagonian fjords. The semi-tropical climate of the north gives way to the extreme austral cold of the south.

In all of CISM's travels over the four continents, never before had its members been invited to discover a land as astounding as this. Over there, everything holds a surprise. While half the world has just enthusiastically welcomed in the spring, the Chileans are putting a brave face on being plunged into the middle of autumn. But for most of them, the warmth of the summer gone by was still very much in evidence; certainly in people's voices. And by way of proof, an evening stroll in the area around the parade ground, in the middle of Santiago, removed any last vestiges of doubt. Indeed, at all hours of the day and night, traditional folk groups were passing by, one after the other, along the pedestrianised avenue. Music is the life blood of Chile. It soothes a whole nation, which cannot live without it. Along the way, in the dimly-lit alleyways, we came across a few tourists, the flashlights of their Canon cameras clicking away. Their feet pounded the ground, their faces lit up... and the tapes produced by these troubadours of an evening were selling like hot cakes. The notes escaping their panpipes livened us up

Photo coverage : Dirk De Vos

again for a little while. It was a complete change of scenery. South America reveals its true face in song. But the following day, the imposing structure of the Diego Portales convention centre, the venue of the General Assembly meetings, brought us abruptly down to earth again. Don't get me wrong... everyone was pleased to attend the annual meeting of members of the big CISM family. But the mass gathering of 70 nations present in Santiago was a bit of a contrast to the intimacy of the previous evening's serenade. Seventy nations attended, together with three nations which were invited to join

General A. Zechner (left) and Contralmirante M. Vergara (right)



(Colombia, Ecuador and Malawi). Although we didn't beat all attendance records, the attendance rate was striking. CISM has not escaped the economic crisis affecting the rest of the world. In this context, the effort made by the more disadvantaged nations to come to Santiago should be emphasised. It's true that, this year, the General Assembly was especially important. The year after the First World Games, the debates about the next Games promised to be lively. But the situation was paradoxical. Everyone was delighted about the first experience of the Games in Rome but few candidates were queuing up at CISM's door to organise the meeting of 1999. Conscientiously, the Executive Committee made a careful note of the thoughts and comments of the member nations following the experience in Rome. It authorised the President, General Secretary and Colonel Gola to take the necessary steps to approach potential organisers. A decision is awaited before the second Executive Committee meeting in November.

Two resignations moved the Assembly very much. Two key figures, two charming men who, thanks to their eloquence, among other things, had left their mark on CISM. Colonel Joseph Potin (Senegal), a loyal servant of CISM since 1983, and Colonel BEM Marc Mignon

Colonel BEM M. Mignon (Belgium), vice-president for Europe



(Belgium), who had been with us since 1989. Two Vice-Presidents, therefore, took their leave. Their successors also cut a fine figure. There was no need to introduce Lt. Colonel Malboum Kalkaba (Cameroon) and Colonel Gianni Gola (Italy). Finally, let's greet the arrival of three new faces: Colonel R. Cleymans (Belgium), Major H. Traoré (Burkina Faso) and Rear Admiral A. Ledesma (Argentine).

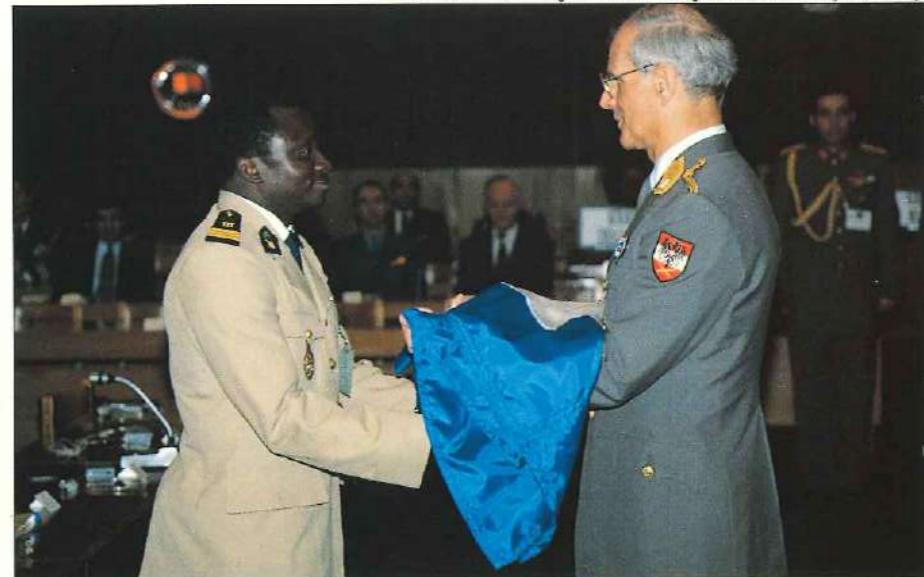
Although no big decisions were reached about the World Games, the same cannot be said of the ascent of Mount Cameroon, rechristened the Race of Hope. CISM made a financial commitment to back the event for the next three years. The format may be modified with the aim of encouraging non-African participation. But, everyone agreed that we should make the most of Mount Cameroon, professionally speaking, and it must be guided by a long-term sporting, information and marketing policy. This is why the Assembly finally approached a professional marketing agency, Dialogic (Belgium) to work together with the Permanent General Secretariat on future plans.

Sport International will not dwell any longer on the other items debated during the fortnight in Chile. The Brussels Secretariat has just completed the minutes prepared for

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this purpose. Attention is already being turned towards the African continent, which will hold the place of honour in 1997: firstly, Cameroon for the demanding ascent of Mount Cameroon planned in Buea on February 1997; then, Togo during May for the 52nd General Assembly. The choice of Lomé will leave a bitter taste in the mouths of the Italian delegation which had applied to host CISM in Rome. But it's a safe bet that the understandable disappointment of the Italian delegation will soon be no more than a bad memory. When the time came to leave Santiago, expressions were tense and there was a glint of sadness in everyone's eyes. Because, as well as the cultural wealth of Chile, the welcome, kindness and natural courtesy of the Chileans left a lasting impression on us. In Santiago, we met a cheerful and hospitable people despite the fact that a section of the population suffers from abject poverty, as evident in the presence of the overcrowded poblacion at the city gates. But Chile showed us a united people, able to listen attentively to the problems of their neighbours or even offer a helping hand. Our journey to the end of the Earth was certainly very worthwhile. □

The President of CISM gives the CISM's flag to the chief of delegation of Togo



Générale revêtait une importance particulière. Au lendemain des premiers Jeux Mondiaux, les débats concernant les prochains Jeux s'annonçaient haut en couleur. La situation est paradoxale. Chacun se félicite de la première expérience des Jeux de Rome mais peu de candidats se pressent au portillon du CISM pour organiser le rendez-vous de 1999. Consciemment, le Comité Exécutif a bien pris note des considérations et autres remarques des nations membres suite à l'expérience romaine. Il a mandaté le Président, le Secrétaire Général et le Colonel Gola pour faire les démarches nécessaires auprès des candidats organisateurs. Une décision est attendue avant la seconde réunion de Comité Exécutif en novembre.

Deux départs ont considérablement ému l'Assemblée. Deux personnalités, deux hommes attachants qui, notamment grâce à leur langage imagé, ont marqué le CISM. Le Colonel Joseph Potin (Sénégal), fidèle serviteur du CISM depuis 1983, et le Colonel BEM Marc Mignon (Belgique) présent depuis 1989. Deux Vice-Présidents ont donc fait leur révérence. Leurs successeurs ont également fière allure. Le Lt-Colonel Malboum Kalkaba (Cameroun) et le Colonel Gianni Gola (Italie) ne doivent plus être présentés. Saluons enfin l'arrivée de trois nouvelles têtes. Le Colonel R. Cleymans (Belgique), le Chef de Bataillon H. Traoré (Burkina Faso) et le Contraalmirante A. Ledesma (Argentine).

Si les Jeux Mondiaux n'ont pas suscité de grandes décisions, il n'en va pas de même pour l'ascension du Mont Cameroun, rebaptisée Course de l'Espoir. Le CISM s'est engagé financièrement à soutenir l'épreuve pour les trois prochaines années. La formule sera peut-être modifiée dans le but de favoriser la participation non-africaine. Néanmoins, tout le monde s'accorde à dire que le Mont Cameroun doit être exploité de manière professionnelle et doit s'inscrire dans une politique sportive, d'information et de marketing à long terme. C'est entre autres pour cette raison que l'Assemblée a finalement

sollicité une agence de marketing professionnelle, Dialogic (Belgique), pour développer, en communion avec le Secrétariat Général Permanent, les projets à venir.

Sport International ne s'étendra pas plus longtemps sur les autres points débattus pendant la quinzaine chilienne. Le Secrétariat de Bruxelles vient de finaliser le procès-verbal prévu à cet effet. Les regards sont déjà tournés vers le continent africain qui sera à l'honneur en 1997. Le Cameroun dans un premier temps pour l'exigeante ascension du Mont Cameroun prévue à Buéa le 8 février 1997. Le Togo ensuite dans le courant du mois de mai pour la 52ème Assemblée Générale. L'élection de Lomé laissera un goût amer à la délégation italienne qui avait posé sa candidature pour accueillir le CISM à Rome. Gageons que la déception légitime de la délégation italienne ne restera qu'un mauvais souvenir.

Au moment de quitter Santiago, les visages se sont crispés. Une pointe de tristesse a alors pointé dans les yeux de tous. Car, au-delà des richesses culturelles du Chili, l'accueil, la gentillesse et l'amabilité naturelles des Chiliens ont marqué la plupart d'entre nous. Nous avons rencontré à Santiago un peuple joyeux et hospitalier même si une frange de la population souffre cependant d'une

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pauvreté criante qui se traduit par la présence aux portes de la ville des *poblacion* surpeuplées. Mais le Chili nous a donné l'image d'un peuple uni, capable de prêter une oreille attentive aux problèmes du voisin voire de tendre la main pour l'aider. Notre voyage au bout du monde ne fut pas vain. □



Le Président A. Zechner en conversation avec le Ministre de la Défense chilien



Mario Pescante honored for the 1st Military World Games



Photos: D. De Vos

The traditional dinner sponsored by Daimler-Benz Aerospace took place on 20 April 1996 with much splendor in the sumptuous reception hall of the Carrera Hotel of Santiago de Chile. The Musketeer Trophy was presented during this gala soiree offered by CISM's main sponsor. Inaugurated last year in Beijing, this distinction recognizes a personality in the international sports world who has dedicated his life to high level sports. The happy winner was Mario Pescante (Italy), president of CONI, who was chosen for his outstanding contribution to the success of the first Military World Games in Rome. Kept in Italy for professional reasons, the Trophy was handed to the Italian Chief of Delegation, Colonel Giacomo PEROTTO. CISM also took advantage of the opportunity to decorate Lt-Colonel Jack Bride (France) and Mr. Claude Thalmann (Polytronic).



Mr. Detmar Grosse-Gege, Representative for the Board of Managers of Daimler-Benz Aerospace

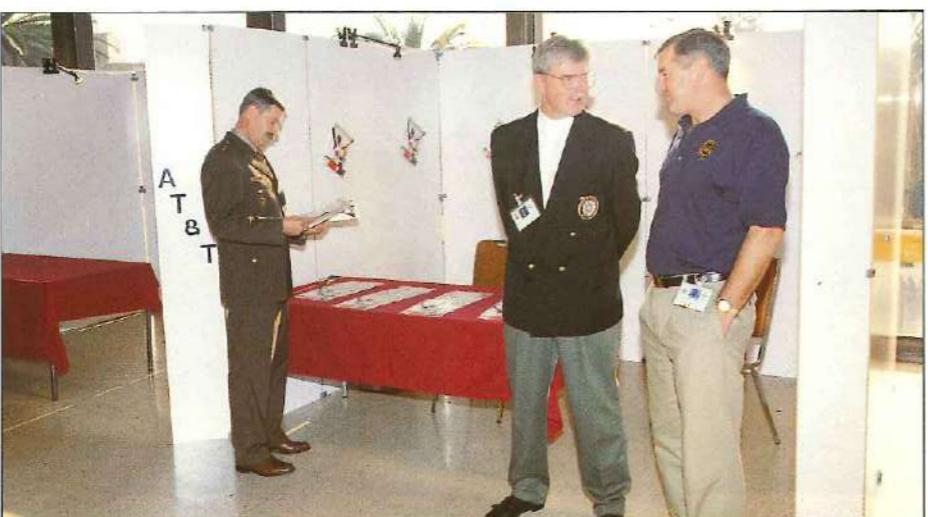


Les partenaires au Chili

T raditionnellement invitées à participer à l'Assemblée Générale du CISM, les firmes partenaires n'hésitent généralement pas à répondre favorablement à l'invitation. Cette année, trois partenaires étaient représentés. Eternit qui dispose d'une succursale à Santiago du Chili, a fait étalage de ses compétences en matière de matériaux de toiture.

Claude Thalmann, représentant de Polytronic, avait également décidé de traverser l'Atlantique et la Cordillère des Andes pour participer à la réunion annuelle du CISM. Membre de la Commission permanente du partenariat, M. Thalmann a une nouvelle fois démontré son attachement fidèle à notre organisation.

Enfin signalons la présence remarquée de la firme américaine AT&T, qui a rejoint le CISM voici un an à peine. Spécialiste en télécommunication aux Etats-Unis et dans une large partie du monde, AT&T a profité de sa présence à Santiago pour annoncer officiellement son souhait de sponsoriser la vidéo et la brochure de présentation du CISM qui seront produites, dans les mois à venir, par la section Information du Secrétariat Général Permanent de Bruxelles. Merci à tous nos partenaires et rendez-vous l'année prochaine en Afrique, à Lomé (Togo).



Concours Kodak

L'Assemblée Générale de Santiago a levé le voile sur l'édition 1995 du concours Kodak. Les trois photographes récompensés par la société Kodak (1er prix 300US\$, 2ème 200US\$, 3ème 100US\$) se nomment :

1. Fan Jiang Huai (Chine)

Victoire française en football lors des premiers Jeux Mondiaux Militaires de Rome

2. Fernand Domange (Belgique)

Pentathlon militaire lors des premiers Jeux Mondiaux Militaires de Rome

3. Serge Honthaas (France)

Parachutiste lors des premiers Jeux Mondiaux Militaires de Rome

