



# FIBA Assist

06  
2001

FIBA'S BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 01 / JANUARY 02

## What's in store?

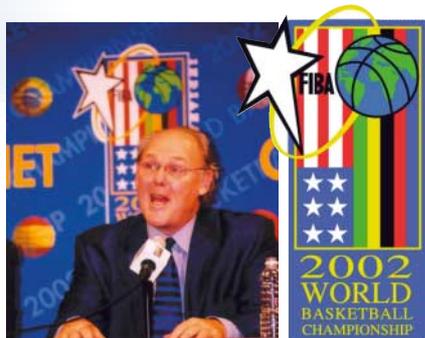
Photo Archive on web. The blockbuster section this autumn was loaded with action shots from all five continents. This was possible due to a new co-operation with the French news agency AFP. Approx. 3,000 pictures from 12 events have been stored on [www.imageforum-par-afp.com](http://www.imageforum-par-afp.com). All photos are available in high quality digital format for download. Any national federations who are interested in receiving access to the archive should contact the FIBA Communications Department for further details.

**fiba.com**  
**AND SEE**  
the official fiba website

Khaled el Kerdani of Egypt at the World Championship for Young Men 2001



## World Championship draw date announced



The date of the draw for the World Championship for Men has been announced as the 5th February, 2001. The draw, in which the 16 participants will be sorted into 4 groups of 4 teams, will take place at the Conesco Fieldhouse (which along with the RCA Dome will serve as the two venues for the World Championship) at 17:30. All participating national federations will receive an official invitation to the draw from FIBA shortly. Media members who are interested in attending the draw should contact the Local Organising Committee at the following address:

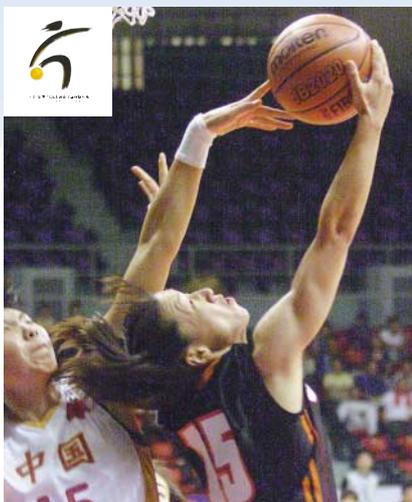
Union Station, 39 Jackson Place, Suite 300,  
Indianapolis IN 46225, USA.  
Tel: 1+317 237 20 02; Fax: 1+317 237 20 01  
Website: [www.2002worldbasketball.com](http://www.2002worldbasketball.com)

In further news, USA Basketball has announced 7 of the 12 players and the coach who will represent the USA during the World Championship. The team will be coached by George Karl, current coach of the Milwaukee Bucks in the NBA. This will be Karl's first experience of working with the national team, although he has a taste of international basketball after two stints coaching Real Madrid in Spain. The following players were selected to team USA; Reggie Miller, Jermaine O'Neal,

Shawn Marion, Jason Kidd, Michael Finley, Antonio Davis and Ray Allen. Kidd and Allen were both part of the USA team that won the gold medal at the Sydney Olympics, and Reggie Miller boasts one Olympic and one World Championship gold medal already to his name. For O'Neal, Marion, Finley and Davis, this will be the first time they represent the USA at the top level, although all have played for their country in previous tournaments. The last 5 selections will be announced by USA Basketball at a later date.

For more information on the draw and other promotional events such as the Dribble and Dream Relay and the Tip-off Celebration, set your homepage for the official competition website at [www.2001worldbasketball.com](http://www.2001worldbasketball.com).

## The best of women's basketball gather in China 2002



September 2002 will see the best of the global game meeting up at the 14th World Championship for Women 2002 in the People's Republic of China. FIBA is looking forward to welcoming the top women's teams from around the world for what promises to be a spectacular Championship.

## What's in store?

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## FIBA's world



**FIBA Order of Merit**  
recipient Mr. Giancarlo Primo  
(second from left) with  
Messrs. Ferrandiz, Seye Moreau,  
Rubini and Stankovič

## Business Corner



The FIBA Basketball area  
at the FSB in Cologne

**molten®**

## +++ China emerge victorious from Asian Championship for Women

China were able to snap a two-time winning streak from Korea to take the title of Asian Champion between 4th - 11th October in Bangkok, Thailand. The tournament was split into two levels, from which the teams competing in level one (China, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Korea, and Thailand) competed for the 3 World Championship berths on offer. Hong Kong, India, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Uzbekistan, Macau, Malaysia and Sri Lanka, all took part in the level two competition, with the winner earning the right to compete in level one in 2003. China's victory over Japan in the final was mainly thanks to 2.02m centre Chen Nan, who produced an awesome 50 point, 11 rebound and 5 block performance to lead her team to a 105-76 win.



## What's in store?

A tentative date has been put forward for the draw for 20th January 2002 in Nanjing, China. All participating national federations will receive an official invitation from FIBA in due time.

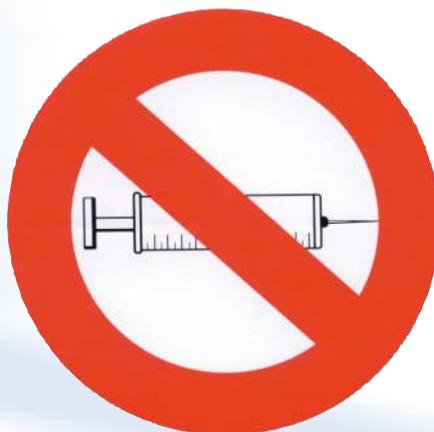
The Chinese Basketball Association, along with the Jiang Su Sports Commission, is hosting the event and has decided to play the competition in 9 different cities in the Jiang Su Province in eastern China. This will offer local fans even more opportunity to see the elite of women's basketball in action, and visitors will also have a better chance to see slightly more of this area of China. The cities are: Zhangjiang, Changshu, Taicang, Wuzhong (venues for the Qualification Round), Huaian (13th - 16th place games), Zhenjiang (9th - 12th place games) Changzhou, Suzhou (8th Finals), and Nanjing (Quarter-Finals - Final game). New gyms have already been built and others renovated in preparation for the event and each venue has a capacity of at least 4,000. In Nanjing the arena holds 10,000 spectators, but the local organisers are confident of filling the arenas throughout the competition as basketball is so popular in their country. For more information concerning the event please see [www.fiba.com](http://www.fiba.com), or contact the organisers directly at:

Basketball Association of the People's Republic of China  
2, Tiuyuan Road, 100763, Beijing, China  
Tel.: +86-10-67 17 48 98, Fax: +86-10-67 17 49 15  
E-mail: [cba@sport.gov.cn](mailto:cba@sport.gov.cn)  
Press Officer: Mr. Xu Minfeng  
Tel.: +86-10-67 17 49 11

### FIBA Medical Council launches Anti-Doping Campaign

Spearheaded by the head of the FIBA Medical Council, Dr. Jacques Huguet, a campaign was launched this summer to strengthen FIBA's activities in the worldwide fight against doping under the title "For a clean future".

The campaign was first seen during the European Championships for Cadets and Cadettes this summer, during which the participants wore the campaign logo on their uniforms and received information in order to raise awareness among young athletes to the dangers of doping.



The campaign was also in evidence during the European Championships for Men and Women, where the logo appeared on the backboards.

For next season it is planned to widen the campaign worldwide in co-operation with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).



**New Media Guide available in January**

FIBA's most comprehensive directory, the Media Guide, will be available as of January 2002. As always it will comprise the contact details of the five Zones, as well as of all 211 national federations and the best clubs from all of those countries. There will be much more such as a media list of approx. 2,000 journalists world wide, zone reports, organising committees and global event calendar. The biggest change to last year is a dramatic increase in email contacts, the communication medium which is becoming more and more vital for day-to-day work.

All national federations and media members will receive one complimentary Guide by mail, but can order additional copies thereafter.



## FIBA's world

### FIBA-OLYMPAFRICA Co-operation Agreement

The International Basketball Federation, FIBA, signed on 11th November in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, during the 9th Championship for Women's Champion Clubs, an agreement of cooperation with the Olympafrica foundation. Olympafrica, is a comprehensive sporting, cultural, socio-educational and economic programme created in 1993 in collaboration with the International Olympic Committee, and is a non-government organisation with headquarters in Dakar, Senegal.



**Mr. Zoran Radovic presents the signed agreement to Mr. Lamine Ba, Project Manager of Olympafrica, while Messrs. Alain Ekra (left) and Alphonse Bilé, FIBA-Africa, look on.**



Its primary objective is to allow the National Olympic Committees of under-developed countries to benefit from the Olympic spirit. Through this the project looks to spread the Olympic message of peace and brotherhood.

FIBA will provide sports equipment, coaching expertise and will assist in the development of basketball facilities. It is poised to be one of the major contributors to the Olympafrica foundation.

Fifteen centres are currently in operation throughout the African continent, in Angola, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Mozambique (2), Niger, Senegal (2) Swaziland, Uganda.



### +++ Record Participation in African Champions Cup for Women

The African Champions Cup for Women took place 3rd - 11th November, 2001 in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. A record nine clubs participated in the Championship, with Dakar University Club looking to regain the title that they won in 2000. Unfortunately for Dakar, they were unable to regain their title, with honours going to Academica (MOZ) after their 66-62 defeat of Premier Agosto (ANG) in the Final. A full rundown of results, rosters and statistics can be found on [www.afaba.com](http://www.afaba.com). +++



06  
2001**Business  
Corner****Giancarlo Primo receives FIBA Order of Merit**

One of Italian basketball's elder statesmen, Mr. Giancarlo Primo was awarded the FIBA Order of Merit during the meeting of the Central Board members in Munich, Germany on 27th November, in recognition of his contribution to basketball in Italy, one of Europe's strongest basketball nations.

As a member of the Italian national team Giancarlo participated in the Olympic Games in London in 1948, and in the European Championships in 1947 and 1949.

In 1957 he began what was to be a coaching career littered with success. As assistant coach of the Italian team, the "Squadra Azzuri", he participated again at the Olympics, in 1960, 1964 and in 1968, and in 4 European Championships, 1959, 1963 - 1967. Having moved to the Head Coach job he then led the national team to 2 Olympic Games (1972 and 1976), 3 World Championships (1970, 1974 and 1978) and 6 European Championships (1969 - 1979), taking a bronze medal in 1971 and 1975. In 238 international games he and guided the "Squadra Azzuri" to 160 wins.

Off the court Signor Primo also became a member of the FIBA Technical Commission, from 1972 - 1978, and for many years he collaborated with the Italian National Coaches Committee assisting with the organisation of coaching clinics.

FIBA would like to extend its gratitude to Giancarlo Primo for years of dedication to the sport, and also its congratulations on the award of the Order of Merit.



**Mr. Giancarlo Primo receives the Order of Merit from FIBA President Mr. Abdoulaye Seye Moreau.**

**Basic principles of a new FIBA Zone for Europe approved**

The Board of FIBA-Europe, meeting on 2nd and 3rd November 2001 in Munich, Germany, took the basic decisions to constitute an administratively autonomous FIBA-Zone for Europe. In particular, the Board decided that its provisional headquarters will be located in Munich, Germany, as of 1st June 2002, when FIBA World will move its headquarters to Geneva, Switzerland.



Furthermore, it was also decided to authorise the President, Mr. George Vassilakopoulos, and the FIBA Secretary General, Mr. Borislav Stankovic, to secure the financial income of FIBA-Europe through agreements with the FIBA Central Board and Sport+, the television partner of FIBA until 2010.

As a consequence, after next year's ratification by the FIBA World Congress in August 2002, FIBA will have 5 administratively autonomous FIBA Zones for each of the 5 continents united under the umbrella and regulations of the International Basketball Federation.

**European Club Competitions**

The FIBA-Europe Board also discussed the future organisation of European Club Competitions.

In general it was decided that three levels of competitions for both men and women should be available, whereas the lower two levels shall be combined into one competition during the same season.

As a consequence there should be two competitions:

- the FIBA EuroCup
- the FIBA European League for both men's and women's clubs.

Specifically, the FIBA EuroCup should be organised as of the season 2002-2003 into a first regional level and a second phase on a pan-European level.

**FBP impressive at FSB International Trade Fair in Cologne**

As predicted, the FSB, the International Trade Fair for Amenities Areas, Sports and Pool Facilities in Cologne, 7th - 9th November 2001, was a resounding success for FIBA Basketball Promotion and its sponsors and partners.



The small playing court set up in the centre of the numerous stalls and stands (see front cover) was of particular interest to the large number of visitors, especially as exhibition pick-up games and coaching sessions were played with coach Maurizio Mondoni sharing his knowledge with young players from clubs and schools in the Cologne area. On the last day 2 members of local Bundesliga club Telekom Baskets Bonn also stopped by to sign t-shirts and ball for the young fans.

A highlight of the 3-day fair for FBP however, was the presentation of the prizes for the architectural competition to design a multi-functional basketball arena in Cologne which could be used not only for games with up to 3,000 spectators, but also for school purposes. As seen in the picture, the President of the German Basketball Federation, Mr. Roland Geggus, presented the over-sized cheques to the winners, Ms. Valentina Rosa Hauser and Mr. Michael Wiefelspütz for their excellent architectural model and well-deserved first place.



FIBA Basketball Promotion GmbH is a subsidiary of FIBA. FBP consists of three departments: Marketing, Events and Study Centre & Research.

**Argentinean domination returns as Estudiantes take League title**

Estudiantes of Olavarria, Argentina, overcame compatriots Gimnasia from Comodoro 3-1 in the final series of the South American Club League 2001, the 6th year this league has run to date. The team, led by Sergio Hernández, offered its opponents no chances and threw all its high class and quality basketball into pulling off the final triumph 100-78 in front of 6,000 fans who had congregated in the Parque Guerrero Stadium in Olavarria. For full results, statistics and photos please go to [www.ligasudamericana.com](http://www.ligasudamericana.com) + + +



# don't get disconnected

## FIBA Directory Changes

**FIBA-Americas (COPABA)**  
New e-mail:  
copaba@fibaamerica.com

### Basketball Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

New contacts:  
Basketball Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Branilaca Sarajeva 21/IV  
71000 Sarajevo  
Tel: +387-33 44 57 20; 66 77 44; 22 05 23  
Fax: +387-33 44 57 20  
E-mail: basketbh@bih.net.ba  
Web site: www.basket.ba

### British Virgin Islands Amateur Basketball Association

New address:  
British Virgin Islands Amateur Basketball Association  
C/o Mr. Elvis Harrigan  
P.O. Box 3133  
Road Town, Tortola

### Ethiopian Basket Ball Federation

New Telephone and e-mail:  
Tel: +251-1 55 79 50; 11 64 56  
E-mail: eth@telcom.net.et

### Portugese Basketball Federation

New telephone and fax:  
Tel: +351-2 18 81 58 00  
Fax: +351-2 18 81 58 99

### Maldives Basketball Association

New e-mail:  
basketball@youthsports.gov.mv



### +++ The Ring-maker

Featured once before in a previous issue of Assist, Peter Izono, Vanuatu's National Basketball Development Officer, continues to carry out a great job. Using his own initiative and quite limited Federation resources, Peter purchased some rings and some outdoor plywood to manufacture 3 sets of basketball rings and backboards (see picture) for donation to three Port Vila where he was keen to run clinics but where there were no basketball facilities.

# People

### +++ Reggie Miller

Reggie Miller was announced as one of the first 7 players selected to represent the USA during the World Championship for Men in 2002. "Internationally, there is no basketball event larger than the World Basketball Championship," commented Miller after selection. "The country that wins this event earns the title 'world champion' for the next four years." Reggie has proved his commitment to representing his country before, earning gold medals at the 1994 World Championship in Toronto and 1996 Atlanta Olympics. A four time NBA All-Star, Reggie is a vital addition to team USA as a player with international experience and one of the best shooters in NBA history. Known as a clutch performer who plays his best basketball in crunchtime, Miller is the most prolific three-point shooter in NBA history. Playing in front of his hometown Indianapolis fans, Miller will be looking to produce the kind of form that took the Indiana Pacers to the 2000 NBA finals.



### +++ Pau Gasol

Pau Gasol's first real success on the international scene came at the 1999 World Championship for Junior Men, where he was part of the Spanish team that won the title in Portugal. Despite being a solid contributor on that team, general consensus was that guards Juan Carlos Navarro and Raul Lopez were the future of Spanish basketball. While Navarro and Lopez have both solidified their reputations as elite senior national team players, Gasol has taken his game to the next level. After a stunning season last year for club side Barcelona, in which he picked up MVP of the Spanish Cup and League Finals (both of which Barcelona won), Gasol went on to lead the national team to the bronze medal in the 2001 EuroBasket and a spot in next year's World Championship for Men. In the bronze medal game against Germany, Gasol's 31 points, 10 rebounds and 3 blocks against established German NBA star Dirk Nowitzki proved to fans that his selection by Memphis as the 3rd pick in the NBA draft (the highest ever for a European) was justified. As Gasol starts the rigours of an long NBA season, he can be sure that the whole of Spain (and most of Europe) will be watching with bated breath.



# Stay tuned

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## EVENT CALENDAR

### JANUARY 2002

23/01/02 and 26/01/02 33rd European Championship for Men 2003, Semi-Final Round, first leg

### MARCH 2002

29/03/02 - 31/03/02 NCAA Women's Final Four in San Antonio, USA

30/03/02 - 01/04/02 NCAA Men's Final Four in Atlanta, USA

### APRIL 2002

10/04/02 and 17/04/02 Final of the Ronchetti Cup

10/04/02 and 17/04/02 Final of the Korac Cup

28/04/02 - 05/05/02 Asian Champions Cup for Men in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

30/04/02 Final of the Saporta Cup in France

## MEETING CALENDAR

### JANUARY 2002

10/01/02 - 11/01/02 World Commission for International Competitions in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany

12/01/2002 - 13/01/02 World Commission for Legal Matters and Eligibility in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany

28/01/02 - 29/01/02 European Commission for Legal Matters and Eligibility in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany

30/01/02 - 31/01/02 Commission for European Competitions in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany

### FEBRUARY 2002

25/02/02 World and European Finance Councils in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany

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