

# Back Britain for gold!

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EXTRA

**B**ACK BRITAIN'S bid for gold at this year's International Skill Olympics, is the message for employers from Training Minister Robert Jackson.

The event, held once every two years, pits trainees from 24 countries in competition across 34 occupational skills ranging from gas welding and graphic design to dress making and cabinet making. All competitors must be under 23 years old.

At the last Skill Olympics, held in Birmingham in 1989, Britain finished in eighth place. This year's event will be staged in Amsterdam from June 29th to July 2nd.

The selection and training of Britain's trainees is being conducted by UK Skills, a non profit-making organisation which aims to promote standards of excellence in vocational training within industry, commerce and further education.

UK Skills was set up last year with financial assistance from the Employment Department and operates under the guidance of City and Guilds — Britain's largest education and training body.



**FANCY A SHAMPOO!** Nicola Heaven (right) won a silver medal at the 1989 Skill Olympics for the dummy's Cleopatra look-alike cut.

Photo: Jacky Chapman

Welcoming a new booklet from UK Skills explaining its aims, Mr Jackson said: "The Skill Olympics offer an excellent opportunity for young people to demonstrate their competence and achievements and for employers to invest in

their future business success."

● For the leaflet *UK Skills: Promoting World-Class Standards* and more information contact Jonathan Freeman, UK Skills, 76 Portland Place, London W1N 4AA. Tel: 071-753 5222.