

# Medal man

A badminton protégé of British Gas in New Barnet has proved he is well worth his salt after his team won bronze and silver medals for Great Britain at the 18th World Games for the Deaf.

Martin Bogárd and his team members failed to clinch the gold in the team event losing to India.

Martin, a photocopier engineer, has serviced the machines at the offices of British Gas, based in Albert Road, for several years. The company gave him £100 towards his expenses to go to the games in Copenhagen last month.

"With 16 countries taking part in the badminton event, competition was tough," said Martin, who now hopes to compete at the next World Games in Rome in 2001.

British Gas employee Pauline Priest, herself a wheelchair user who communicates with Martin in the office through sign language, originally presented the company's donation to him. She was delighted to see him back on British turf with his well-earned medals.



**Game on: Martin Bogard shows off his bronze and silver medals to British Gas' Pauline Priest**