



NEWSLETTER

19th INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD IN INFORMATICS
ZAGREB, August 15 - 22



No. 3

Saturday, August 18, 2007

FIRST ROUND OF COMPETITION IS OVER!

The meeting of the General Assembly (all team leaders and deputy leaders participated), during which the tasks for the first day of the competition were chosen, went smoothly and with high level of concordance between colleagues.

The difficult part of the job was the very start – the translation of 3 chosen tasks into the mother tongue of each country. Croatian team finished minutes after midnight, the last were the Koreans, who left the Translation room (popularly known by the name of Spider) after 4 a.m.

The competition started with 4 minutes delay, in the 8A hall of Zagreb Fair, especially adapted for the IOI 2007. After five hours of deep concentration, the results were finalized. From the technical point of view everything worked perfectly.

Mr. Bojan Antolović, the president of the Scientific Committee told us that 290 contestants attended the competition, out of which 60 solved the first task, 24 of them solved the second task and 12 solved the third task.



VISIT TO VICE PRIME MINISTER, MRS. JADRANKA KOSOR

On August 17th, the IOI International Committee and the IOI Organizing Committee representatives were received by the Vice Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, Jadranka Kosor. Mr. Alen Spiegl, the president of the Organizing Committee, presented some details about the event organization and progress, while Mr. Zide Du, the president of the IOI, gave brief introduction about the IOI and Olympiads in general. Mr. Pieter Waker, an observer from South Africa, Mr. Jari Koivisto, IOI Executive Director, Mr. Krassimir Manev, IC member from Bulgaria, Zdravko Galić, representative of the Office of the president of Croatia and Tomislav Vujec, IOI General Assembly Chairman also joined the discussion about the IOI and Informatics in general. Minister Kosor expressed gratitude to the IC for honouring Croatia with an opportunity to host such an event.



ONE DOWN, ONE TO GO!

Christopher Chen from Australia, 15, told us that the first two problems were easier, the third one was pretty difficult. Five hours sound like too long, but in fact it's not enough. He is very happy and satisfied and he's glad that he meets new people.



Mohamed Tawfik from Egypt who participates for the third year in IOI competitions is happy that his country will be the host of the next IOI 2008 in Egypt, but on the other hand he regrets that he won't travel to another country.

Marcin Andrychowicz and **Tomasz Kulczynski** from Poland are very satisfied with the problem tasks they got. They shared with us their impression on the test.

Tomasz: «I think problems were not too easy but I am satisfied. I worried a bit because I thought it would be too warm in the competition room to think at the high speed, but it was ok.»

Marcin said: «For me there were two easy problems and one quite difficult. However, I solved it. In Poland we have high level of our national team in informatics, so problems were, generally speaking, difficult.»

Arindam Saha from India said after the test:

«I tried my best, but I didn't solve everything. The time was limited. If I had had a couple of hours more I would have solved all of them for sure. I don't know my score yet, I have to find my leader.»



Lauri Rentta from Finland who won the bronze medal last year agreed with the majority of contestants that the problem tasks weren't easy, but like every competitor he tried to solve them. «The other members of our team also agree that it wasn't easy to find the correct algorithms.»

Rati Gelashvili from Georgia told us: «Problems were in fact difficult and original, I liked them and working on these tasks was rather interesting. They weren't easy to catch.»

Radwa Metwali from Egypt – «It's my first time on this competition, it seems that the problems were pretty demanding.»

CHILE

TWO GIRLS IN THE MIDST OF MALE COMPETITORS



Constanza Contreras and Romina Huenchunao are the two Chilean female members who dared to compete among strong male competition.

We met them after the first competition round and asked about their impressions of the IOI 2007 contest in Croatia.

- *So, our ladies, what are your first impressions of Croatia?*
«People are very kind, the country is very clean and beautiful. Our guide is very kind and speaks several languages - Spanish, German and English. We are grateful (agradecidas) for the hospitality and everything.»

- *Do you believe that year by year there will be more girls in the competition IOI?*

«We think that girls will be more numerous each year, why not?»

- *Have you already spoken to our boys?*

«We haven't had the chance to meet them yet.»

- *What were the problems in the competition like?*

«The problems weren't easy, but we tried our best to solve as much as possible.»

- *Will you attend the 20th IOI in Egypt next year?*

«Well, we still don't know, maybe we will.»



Irena Mlinarević

GERMANY

THE FIRST IMPRESSION OF THE «BIG» DAY

After the first day of the competition, I managed to catch a part of the German delegation and get a few words from them.

I asked them what they thought of the tasks on today's competition - Ludwig said that it was possible to finish two of them but for one he thought of the solution later on and could have scored 50 extra points.



Daniel Grunwald

However, Daniel thinks it was all ok and is satisfied while Benito noticed that he made a few silly mistakes and wasn't too happy. Asked if they had enough time to finish all the tasks, they thought about it for a minute and then admitted that there simply wasn't enough time for testing all their tasks.

To end the tension about the competition, I asked would they ever come back and they all said it is simply too hot now but they really liked it. They all mentioned that they are all very happy with their guide and were surprised that «...he can even speak German».

Their team-leader Wolfgang Pohl, Ph.D. still didn't have the opportunity to see Zagreb and is hoping to go downtown by the end of the week. He has a different point of view of the whole happening and said: «so far everything is going nice, the meetings are well chaired, the organisation is running smoothly. The task set was ok for today but I would have been happier with some better results. In previous competitions we had quite good ones. But there is one more day».

Diana Mudrinić

Mini problems to your enjoyment only

All mini challenges published in daily newsletters (and some that were **not published** due to space restrictions) can be found here: <http://www.hsin.hr/~iurbiha/>

Send your comments and solutions to address iurbiha@hsin.hr. Please, make them short and understandable. Also, execution time of your solutions should be within reasonable limits.

PROBLEM #3

Write a program that will find all the simplest (no nesting) ways of inserting parentheses into the following wrong equality so that it becomes valid:

$$-1-3-5-7-9-11-15-17-19-21 = 42$$

one solution: $-1-(5-7-9)-(11-13-15-17-19)-21=42$

Generalization: input consists of $n+1$ numbers, first n numbers (a,b,\dots,w) are nonnegative integers, the last one is arbitrary integer (z). Program should find all the simplest ways of inserting parentheses into the following wrong equality so that it becomes valid: $-a-b-c-\dots-w = z$.

Igor Urbija

| Today's Schedule | |
|------------------|---|
| Contestants | |
| 10:00 – 13:30 | LEISURE JARUN LAKE |
| 16:00 – 19:00 | Sightseeing in Zagreb |
| Leaders | |
| 10:00 – 13:30 | LEISURE JARUN LAKE |
| 18:00 – 20:00 | 4 th GA MEETING SD S. Radić |
| 21:00 > | TASK TRANSLATION |
| Guests | |
| 10:00 – 13:30 | LEISURE JARUN LAKE |

| Weather Forecast – Zagreb 45 49N 16 02E | | | | |
|---|---|----------------|----------------|---|
| | | min. | max. | wind |
| Saturday 18.08.2007 |  | 16 °C 61 °F | 25 °C 77 °F |  |
| Sunday 19.08.2007 |  | 16 °C 61 °F | 27 °C 81 °F |  |

Newsletter No.3

Editors

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| Basic English | Croatian Dictionary |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Contestant – natjecatelj | Team – ekipa |
| Funny – smiješno | Play – igra |
| It's great – Odlično je! | Summer – Ljeto |
| Sun tan – Pocrniti | Swimming – Kupanje |
| It's hot! – Vruće je! | Enjoy – Uživaj! |



GEORGE MICHAEL in Zagreb!

We asked the contestant from Cyprus, who shares the same name with the famous singer George Michael how did he get that name.

'George is a very common name, also Michael is a very common name. My father's name is Michael, my godfather is George, so i got George Michael.'

We asked him if people have ever stopped him and said something about his name.

'Not on Cyprus, but I spent a month studying in the States and it was very funny when people heard my name. Some of them have even showed me the singer's moves or so.'