



NEWSLETTER

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



No. 6

Tuesday, August 21, 2007

EGYPT – IOI 2008 Host Country



Ossama Ismail, ISC member

• *Please, tell us what is your function in the Egyptian delegation?*
Right now I am in the International Scientific Committee and will be Host Scientific Committee Chairman in Egypt.

• *We have seen that you have already started the preparations. Could you tell us what they consisted of?*

The whole event will take place in a campus in Cairo. It is a closed campus with all the facilities - hotel, restaurant, even a 3D cinema for the contestants. Place is equipped with gymnasium, even little museums. It is close to Cairo, in a very

clean area, close to the pyramids. We have started with the preparations two years ago. We have tried to find a nice and suitable place for the contestants – we were thinking of doing it in Sharm el-Sheikh but it's far away from Cairo and most of the countries want to see the pyramids, the Egyptian museums. Also, we got help from two of our ministries, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Communication in Egypt. The entire event will be under the patronage of our president which will also make our work very easy.

• *Your logo is already on your T-shirts and bookmarks you distributed. Could you tell us what the logo means?*

Logo consists of two cobras and the sun between them. Most of the pharaohs in Egypt, especially Cleopatra, have this symbol in their crown. The symbol represents the power and the wisdom of the pharaohs. So we took the symbol as it is and the letters form the IOI. I am trying to contact some Egyptologists to give us more stories about the logo.

• *Tell us your view of the upcoming Olympiad from your point of view as a member of the scientific team?*

This is not an easy job. We will work very, very hard during the upcoming six months. I have already made lot of contacts with people from inside and outside Egypt to help us, especially with the tasks and the answers to them. I think we'll do it in a very good way.



Mohamed Taha, Delegation Leader

I am a teaching assistant at Arab Academy for Science and Technology, the university that sponsors the Egyptian team at International Olympiad. I am a delegation leader this year and maybe I will be involved in the Scientific Committee next year since we are the host of the next year's event.

• *Now that you have seen the contest 'behind the scene' this year, how will your preparations next go?*

I have been involved in the programming competitions before either as a contestant or an organizer since 2001. I think this year everything considering technical stuff went ok. Our preparations will start from the week we are back to Egypt with collecting the tasks proposed for the next year's competition. We will be working on these tasks to get the best solutions, generating test solutions and maybe make a book containing the tasks that will be available for all the contestants after the contest.

• *Now that you've been here, what have you seen as a good side and what as a bad side?*

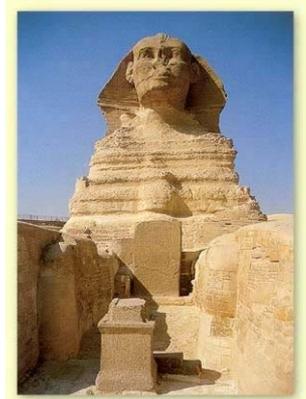
From technical and scientific point of view, it was one hundred percent perfect. Regarding organization, I think it was ok. Some disadvantage was the accommodation, it was a bit of a surprise to share the bathroom with some other team. The food was perfect, it was taken into consideration that, for instance, Muslims don't eat pork, we can find something else to eat. I like the food very much. I can tell you - I have been to maybe ten countries before, participating at Olympiads, but it was my first time to eat very comfortably. Trips were ok, very interesting one yesterday, maybe it was a bit long (laughs) but we slept in the bus – I know that you decided to take us to see the best possible site. We had fun there. I liked it.

• *How will you apply experience from this year to the next considering your contestants?*

This year I am not expecting medals, we had some bad luck at the contest. Two guys from our team are very young, we are preparing them for next year. I think I have a 'pool' of contestants from which I can choose a team for next year. But you know, you can never guarantee results in the Olympiad like this. One little mistake can cost you 70 or 80 points. In the end, the competition is not only four guys that represent a country, it is about the thousands that tried to get involved.

• *As a next year's host, what is your message to the participants?*

I promise we will do our best to make you enjoy in our country. Wait for (hopefully) successful event and we're looking forward to seeing everybody in Egypt one year from now!





The competition was finally over, so our guests and contestants went to a one-day trip to get a glimpse of the natural wonders of Croatia.

Considering that the night before both contestants and their team leaders had attended parties, we were happy to see that almost nobody overslept.

The moment we all passed through the entrance of the national park it started raining, so you even had the chance to try on the raincoats in your backpacks. It was over in a few minutes, so we could continue sightseeing around the numerous lakes and beautiful waterfalls. Although nobody got lost (OK, Yi did, but we found him ☺) we had some difficulties. The paths were very narrow, and there were a lot of tourists, so it was a bit harder to enjoy the waterfalls.

There were many ways to go around the lakes – walking, boats and trains...and the sightseeing was supposed to last for three to four hours, so there was a bit of a mess to pick up all the people in their busses at the end.

The good thing is we could make it a challenge for our contestants - to do an algorithm (optimal solution) for going around Plitvice Lakes, taking in consideration all of the listed circumstances!

A late lunch at the nearby Korenica followed, afterwards a visit to the Memorial Center Nikola

Tesla, world known inventor and genius.

We should've thanked him, because without him there would be no Olympiad.

Without his discoveries concerning alternating current, we would've never had enough electricity to start all those computers. ☺

So a big thanks to Nikola, for making it possible for us to meet so many new friends during the IOI!

The return home was a proof of a superstition. With 13 buses, something had to go wrong. The Thirteenth Bus had two flat tires just outside of Zagreb. As we entered the dormitory complex, the first group was waiting for us at the terrace and gave us a big round of applause as we got off the busses. Everyone knew what happened.



IOI 2007 GUIDES

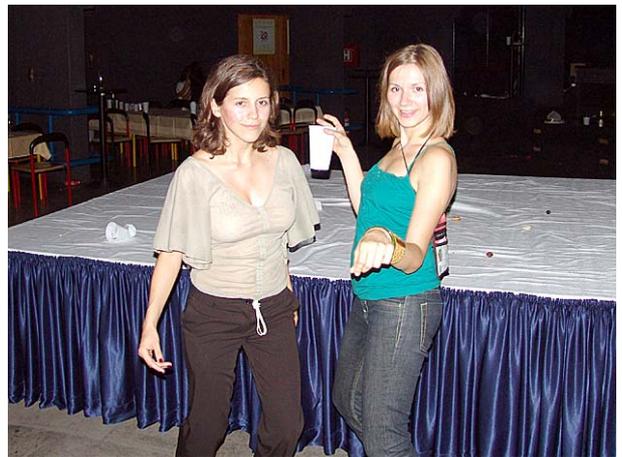
Country	Guide	
	Name	Surname
ALBANIA	Marija	Babić
ARGENTINA	Zdravka	Kucijan
ARMENIA	Nina	Klabučar
AUSTRALIA	Vanesa	Tipura
AUSTRIA	Dora	Sočo
AZERBAIJAN	Ivana	Belošević
BANGLADESH	Tin	Smrekar
BELARUS	Tin	Kojundžić
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	Maja	Markanović
BRAZIL	Nina	Kalauz
BULGARIA	Maja	Cvijanović
CANADA	Diana	Mudrinić
CHILE	Iva	Jurić
CHINA	Mateja	Ivanda
CHINESE TAIPEI	Mihaela	Morduš
COLOMBIA	Davor	Lukić
CUBA	Matko	Boršić
CYPRUS	Maxim	Lach
CZECH REPUBLIC	Ines	Oštrić
DENMARK	Andreja	Tunjić
EGYPT	Juraj	Držić
EGYPT	Iva	Marinčić
ESTONIA	Vanja	Hruška
FINLAND	Iva	Šoštarić
FRANCE	Ida	Čepulić
GEORGIA	Martina	Ružić
GERMANY	Edo	Jelavić
GREECE, KUWAIT	Tea	Milić
GREECE, KUWAIT	Anamarija	Zadavec
HONG KONG CHINA	Adam	Cvrtila
HUNGARY	Sara	Stamenov
INDIA	Iva	Mihalić
INDONESIA	Paula	Bartovčak
IRAN	Iva Klara	Pranjić
IRELAND	Katarina	Knezović
ISRAEL	Ana	Vonić
ITALY	Ivana	Krivak
JAPAN	Tara	Ivanišević

Country	Guide	
	Name	Surname
KAZAKHSTAN	Pamela	Hamzić
KOREA	Dino	Damjanović
KYRGYZSTAN	Ivana	Mikolić
LATVIA	Matea	Cvek
LITHUANIA	Dunja	Radović
LUXEMBOURG	Antonia	Schmidth
MACAU CHINA	Barbara	Vričko
MACEDONIA, FYR	Mirela	Čorak
MEXICO	Agata	Knezić
MOLDOVA	Marina	Tkalec
MONGOLIA	Sabrina	Wagnes
NETHERLANDS	Ninoslav	Rudman
NEW ZEALAND	Ivan	Petruša
NIGERIA	Lana	Novosel
NORWAY	Jelena	Talan
POLAND	Marko	Plačko
PORTUGAL	Matej	Zadro
ROMANIA	Valentina	Valjak
RUSSIA	Nataša	Marolt
SERBIA	Marica	Malenica
SINGAPORE	Jelena	Cvitanović
SLOVAKIA	Petra	Kenda
SLOVENIA	Lucija	Jagatić
SOUTH AFRICA	Mislav	Mijatović
SPAIN	Silvija	Perić
SRI LANKA	Iva	Ivanković
SWEDEN	Petra	Mikolić
SWITZERLAND	Tonka	Ljulj
SYRIA	Ines	Mesar
TAJIKISTAN	Ante	Radoš
THAILAND	Marta	Bartovčak
TURKEY	Adriana	Terek
TURKMENISTAN	Mihaela	Malenica
UNITED KINGDOM	Vida	Starčević
UKRAINE	Matija	Trstenjak
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Vjeran	Lokošek
UNITED STATES	Ivana Emily	Škoro
VENEZUELA	Ermin	Zvizdić
VIETNAM	Igor	Vrdelja



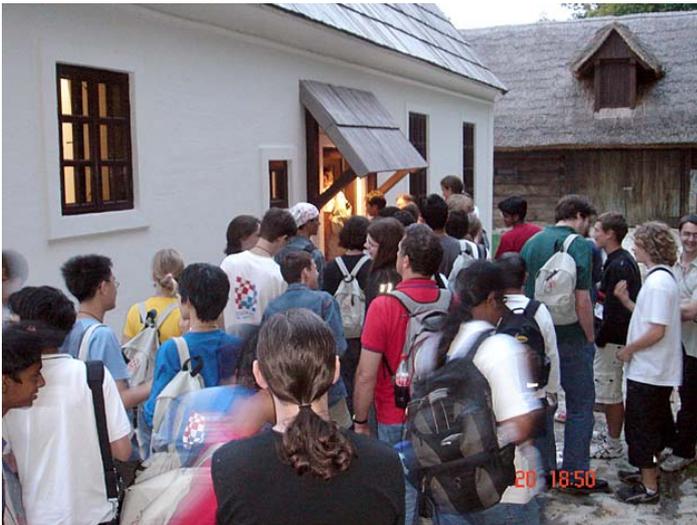
AWARDS & CLOSING CEREMONY







We hope you will remember all the good moments you had in Croatia, and keeping in mind a wise sentence from a wise man *"I'm not angry they stole my ideas, I'm sad they didn't have their own ideas"*. (N. Tesla)



We wish all of you to have a lot of ideas, and the opportunity to share them with the whole world!



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 #6

Write a program that will find three mutually different natural numbers with a property that their sum as well as sum of any two of them are perfect squares. How many such triplets are there where all the numbers are less than 1000?



prof. Igor Urbha, Ph.D.

New International Committee Member List



President of the IOI: **Zide Du**, China
IC members:

Krassimir Manev, Bulgaria
Ivo Šeparović, Croatia
Troy Vasiga, Canada
Richard Forster, United Kingdom
Valentina Dagiene, Lithuania
Eljakim Schrijvers, Netherlands
Rogelio Garda Llano, Argentina: new member
Metodija Jančeski, Macedonia: new member
Mohamed Youssef, Egypt: new member
Representative of. Thailand: new member

Weather Forecast – Zagreb 45 49N 16 02E

		min.	max.	wind
Wednesday 22.08.2007		16 °C 61 °F	27 °C 81 °F	

Basic English

Good bye – Doviđenja

Have a nice journey
Sretan put!

Croatian Dictionary

See you! – Vidimo se!



THE PEN



Eduard Slavoljub Penkala is one of the most important inventors of the beginning of the 20th century. He was born on April 28, 1871 in Slovakia and moved to Croatia after he married.

His work covers about 70 to 80 inventions in the field of machinery, chemistry, physics and aeronautics.

His most important invention, in 1906, the first mechanical pen in the world, and in the 1907 the first mountain pen.

«The pen is mightier than the sword.»

Newsletter No.6

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