

The MEMO Post

„Oh Lord, save me!“ – Ilko Brnetić, organizer

After a whole day of arrivals, MEMO is ready to start!

So, you've made the mistake of picking up this issue of The MEMO Post and you're probably wondering two things: first, who ever let us write anything. Second, why you are reading this insane drivel instead of sleeping some more. Note, however, that your feelings are reciprocated - editors lost a couple of hours of good sleep (or Seinfeld watching, for at least one of them) and the issue is being finished as the dawn breaks. Alas, if you've made that obvious, but honest, mistake, the best we can do is to try and entertain you. You'll be receiving The MEMO Post every day at breakfast - we'll usually try to provide some information about the previous day and the coming day.

Unlike yesterday, which consisted of teams arriving and guides rapidly losing weight and mental composure while filling the backpacks for 4 hours, there's a lot of fun planned for today - Urbis ludus is something this guide wishes he could participate in. Why do students get to play all the fun stuff? That's not fair! ☺ ☺

IMPRESSUM:

The man with the hat (and the scarf, for some reason): Mario Berljafa*

Cashier: Jelena Gusić

Ph.D. student (Swimming? Yes, yes, no no, no): Sara Muhvić

Slovenian guide: Melkior Ornik

Little guy: Ana Šušnjara

* Hat bought in Bratislava, scarf in Vienna



The arrival of the teams marked the start of this year's Middle European Mathematical Olympiad, held in Varaždin, Croatia. After multiple victories of the Polish and Hungarian teams, they are hoping to continue their tradition, while other teams have been working hard to get their hands on the trophy.

(pictured: Czech team arriving)

PLANS FOR TODAY

While the jury is having their first meetings, contestants will be challenged in orientation and team work as well as their creativity. Each team will be given a number of cultural sights of town Varaždin which they will not only have to find by themselves, but also have to pose in a photo of a sight in most interesting way. We can't wait to see those photos!

On the other hand, contestants are free to spend the afternoon in the activity of their own choice: recreation or contemplation. ☺

And don't forget: presentation of the teams starts at 6pm.

INTERVIEW with Tomislav Maruščak, German team guide

Why exactly are you here?

I came in Varaždin because I like volunteering and because this was a perfect chance to improve my German and to learn more about German culture. Besides, my life is boring.

Do you think your team is satisfied with your guidance?

At the time, my team prefers their mascot over me ☺ ☺ ☺ but I hope that in time we'll establish decent communication.

How would you describe mathematics in four words?

Software for solving everything.

Do you like haiku poetry and why?

....

After he was asked this question, Tomislav unexpectedly got an assignment and disappeared out of sight. Yes, our guides are very dedicated to their work. ☺



DID YOU KNOW?

- Croatian town of Hum is Guinness World Record holder for the smallest town in the world. It has only 17 inhabitants.
- Republic of Ragusa was the first European country that banned slavery.
- The last remaining oasis of European griffon vultures is located on the Croatian island of Cres.
- The thick walls of the lighthouse "Veli Rat" on Dugi otok island contain thousands of eggs to make them more resistant to wind and sea.
- The number of islands, islets and reefs in Croatia is 1185 and that there is a heart shaped island named Galešnjak.
- National parks Plitvice and Krka have been used as the locations for scenes in the films about Winnetou.



INTERVIEW with Slovakian contestant Viktor Lukáček

How many international competitions have you been to?

This is my first international competition.

When I say art you say... Music.

Error. The correct answer would be mathematics! ☺

Which field of mathematics do you like the most?
Number theory!

How much would you pay for a gold medal here at MEMO?

Hmmm, I don't know.... One hundred euros?

Why do you like Star Trek?
I don't like Star Trek at all. :S