

The MEMO Post

"You are all winners." – various artists

End game

OK, guys, looks like we're going down. It's been a fun ride - intense at times, insomniac for some, but always fun. The final day was also kind of intense - spending the whole day on an excursion, sleeping in brief intervals of driving between places, then having lunch (on a side note, I don't know how many of you have noticed that the restaurant was owned by a state penitentiary), showering and going to the closing ceremony.

No matter how secret, I don't know how unexpected were the results - predictions and word of mouth proved to be correct this time (as well). In any case, congratulations go to everyone from your editors and all the guides.

What's left to do? The trivial part, always a bit happy and a bit sad - packing up, saying bye and leaving, Slovenian team doing that under the cover of darkness. There's always somewhat clichéd talk of taking good memories with you and leaving bad ones behind. I don't know if there were any bad ones, but I'm sure good ones automatically get remembered, as good memories generally have a habit of doing.

So, so long and thanks for all the fish. Of which there was none.

IMPRESSUM:

The man with the hat: Mario Berljafa
Cashier: Jelena Gusić
Ph.D. student: Sara Muhvić
Slovenian guide: Melkior Ornik
Little guy: Ana Šušnjara



The main event of yesterday was the closing ceremony, held in the County of Varaždin building. Well crowded (indeed, there were more people than chairs), the closing ceremony was a typical mish-mash of standard speeches, cultural programme and the most interesting part: official awards ceremony.

Not unexpected, at least taking into account popular opinion and gossip, Poland won the team competition for the fourth time, this time with a perfect score! Second and third places went to other all-time favorites Hungary and Germany.

In the individual competition, Wojciech Nadara from Poland obtained a perfect score, causing an uproar of cheers from other competitors.

TODAY

The day of our separation is finally here! ☺ Just kidding.

Departure schedule is on the infoboard since yesterday. We hope you're all packed up and ready to start your trip home. Have a nice, safe and pleasant journey, and don't forget to write!

INTERVIEW with Wojciech Nadara, Polish contestant

According to predictions, your team has more solved problems than any other team. Do you believe in these predictions?
Yes, of course.

Are there any other mathematicians in your family?
No.

Are you looking forward to going back home?
No. It's very nice here, everything is well organised and I like playing poker with guys from other countries.

Next question was asked by Michał Zając, his teammate.

What's your favorite mushroom?
I don't like mushrooms.

What's your favourite PC game?
Captain Claw.



pictured: Wojciech Nadara

INTERVIEW with Borna Vukorepa, Croatian contestant

If it was your choice, where would this year's MEMO be held?

Actually, I'm very glad that Croatia was the host this year. I am much more relaxed than I would have been if MEMO was held in another country.

What is your opinion on the rest of your team?

These people are natural talents in having a good time. My teammates are the people who will surely appear in my life so this is a good opportunity for us to bond and get to know the best in each other.

Also the worst, I suppose.

In these situations the worst turns into the best.

Except for your teammates, who with did you hang out most?

Mostly with guides, but there were other people too.

Do you hope or/and plan to participate on IMO in future?

Yeah, I've been thinking about it a lot. I was close to participation at IMO this year, so we'll see what happens next year.

What will you bring home from Varaždin?

I'll always remember staying up all night last few days, singing with my friends, the football tournament... I'm delighted I had an opportunity to participate in an international competition.



pictured: Borna Vukorepa



In the morning and the afternoon, competitors, along with their leaders and guides, went to visit the castle of Trakošćan and the site where Neanderthal remains were found near Krapina. The story of Trakošćan acts as a clear reminder of a common part in history of most of the countries participating in MEMO and the story of Krapina is a clear reminder of a common part in history of all the people participating altogether.