



CATALYZER

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Editorial

So, the Games are on foot! We have already covered the first two days of the 35th IChO.

On Saturday, we had the opportunity to welcome our friends from all over the world. Our company is pretty large: 232 students, 176 mentors, scientific observers and guests from 62 countries have come to Athens in order to participate in the 35th IChO.

On Sunday the opening ceremony took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere. We really enjoyed the music performed by the chorus of the National Technical University of Athens and a Greek soprano.

Today the students visit Ancient Corinth, while the mentors have a very busy day trying to translate the Practical Exam...

*AIEN APISTEYEIN
KAI YTIEIPOXON
EMMENAI AΛΛΩN*

Homer *Iliad*, 6, 208

**Ever to be the bravest
and pre-eminent above all**

This advice was given by Ippolachos from Lycia to his son Glaucus.

JAPAN AND PORTUGAL JOIN THE CLUB!

Two new countries participate for the first time in the IChO: Japan entered the Olympiad with 4 students, 2 mentors and 2 guests, and Portugal with 4 students and 2 mentors. We welcome you all!



The Japanese Team: Masatoshi Akahane, Kouichi Ueno, Naoto Satou and Ichirou Tanabe (students), Masato Ito, Yukihiko Ueno, Yoshikazu Takamatsu, Tadashi Ikegami.



The Portuguese students: Andre Ramos, Ana Vieira, Carlos Oliveira, Concalo Felix.

GLAD TO HAVE YOU HERE!

It's Saturday afternoon and most of the groups have arrived in Athens. "Catalyzer" was present at the airport together with the Guides in order to meet the participants.

The Austrian delegation seemed very happy being here. Kerschbaumer Manfred, the head mentor, ensured us that his team is very well prepared and they hope for a very good result. Patrick, a 15 year old boy, seems to be the star of the team (silver medal last year in Groningen). Mr Manfred was confident for the success of this Olympiad and wished that the students will make new friends in a fair competition.



Austria (Franziska Bell, Patrick Ludl, Clemens Mayer, Armin Thrllhammer)

We were also very happy to meet the Egyptian team. Egypt takes part in the IChO for the second year and its members seemed to be pretty excited about it. Moreover, Head Mentor Prof. Dr Saad Hassan emphasised on the importance of interacting with other groups, gaining experience, making new friendships and getting to know other cultures.



Egypt (Maryam M. M. Ismail, Ahmed M. A. Mohamed, Michael S. M. Deryas, Ahmed M. R. A. Zaghw)



Uruguay (Luciana Prini, Claudina Rattaro, Enrique Neumann)

Furthermore, he talked about the very long-lasting friendship between our nations and wished success for the event and a good position for his team.

Although the teams from Argentina and Uruguay had a very long journey, were enthusiastic and made a lot of fun. They noticed that the weather is too hot (in the southern hemisphere it is Winter now), and declared being ready for a medal.



Argentina (Pablo Aberbuj, Matias David Galetti, Carlos Manuel Alberto Guardia, Eduardo Jose Rosaz)

Mr Anton Sirota (Slovakia team), a member of the Steering Committee and an old friend, underlined his absolute certainty for the organisational success of the competition in both the scientific and social level, since Assoc. Prof. Andreas Tsatsas is the President of the Olympiad.

Finally, among others, we welcomed the Cypriot team. Head mentor Michael Nikolaou expressed his wish for a bronze medal and his belief that this competition is a great chance for all the students to make good friends.

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER!



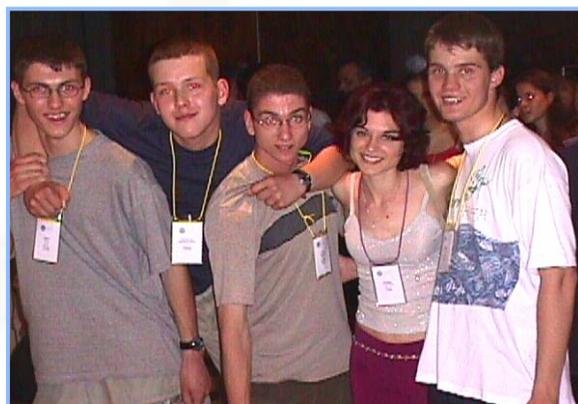
The Australian team: George Zhong, Olie Thorn-Seshold, Jason Chung, Tarrant Falcke

The Australian team really stole the show at yesterday evening's dinner at "President" hotel. Olie and his friends wearing those funny hats teased almost everybody in the lobby, emphasizing that they were all happy being here. Olie expressed that he is "absolutely thrilled to be here. It's gonna be a great competition. Three hundred kids around the world, all looking for fun and a bit of Chemistry, as well. It's gonna be a great time. I love it!" (!)

From the Bulgarian team, Hristo and Delyan stated that they are very happy being here among the best chemistry students from all over the world, they studied hard and they are ready for a medal.

Jonas, from the Norwegian team, shared with us his expectations for a medal, although he has not studied very hard. Also, he is looking forward to meeting new friends. The social part of the competition was also emphasized by Berglind and Helga from Iceland. Moreover, they are determined to do their best at the competition.

Finally, Raimondas, from the Lithuanian team, declared that they are all well prepared and ready for a medal.



The Latvian team: Aleksandrs Prokofjevs, Kaspars Veldre, Reinis Danne, Edgars Jecs



The Hellenic team: Alexandros Dimitriadis, Nikos Liakakos, Yiannis Kordonis, Konstantinos-Antonios Goulas

A little bit fun...

Two hydrogen atoms bumped into each other recently.
One said: "Why do you look so sad?"
The other responded: "I lost an electron."
Concerned, One asked "Are you sure?"
The other replied "I'm positive."

A neutron walks into a bar, sits down and asks for a drink. Finishing, the neutron asks "How much?"
The bartender says, "For you, no charge."

Q. If a bear in Yosemite, and one in Alaska fall into water, which one would dissolve faster?

A. The bear in Alaska because it's polar.



Program of the day

Students

7:30-9:30 Breakfast at SC
9:30-14:00 Excursion to Ancient Corinth
14:00-15:00 Lunch at SC
15:00-20:00 Rest & Study at SC
20:00 Dinner at SC

Mentors

8:00-9:00 Breakfast at Hotel
9:30-13:00 Translation of Practical Exam at UOA, Chemistry Dpt
13:00-14:00 Buffet Lunch
14:00-19:00 Translation Completed and Copied
20:00 Dinner at Hotel

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