



## CEOI News 2

### August 12, 2001

*Editors*

Anita Horváth

Péter Szlávi

Piroska Törley

### Snapshots of the Opening Ceremony




Warm words of welcome were addressed to the participants by the President of CEOI2001, Péter Hanák, the State Secretary of the Ministry of Education, László Környei, the Head of the Education Department of Zala County, László Vajda and the Headmaster of Zrínyi Miklós Secondary School, Attila Horváth. Here you can read a few sentences of the speeches.

Péter Hanák: "When computers and their applications are being mentioned, I often recall the thoughts of Daniel McCracken, an American computer scientist who, more than 30 years ago, wrote something like this:

«Computers have been invented to help us solve *problems*. And we indeed do so. From time to time we solve *problems* using computers just because they *can be solved with the computer*, and *not* because they are *important*.»"

László Környei: "Future societies will be based on knowledge and information will play a crucial role in it. This is what motivates people to become familiar with information technology since it will be of vital importance in one's success in life."

László Vajda: "I know you have a busy schedule here. I do hope, however, that you'll find the time to walk around Zalaegerszeg and travel around its neighbourhood since Zala County has so much to offer: rolling hills, beautiful forests that teem with game and fowl, a bird reserve in the swamps of Little Balaton and the thermal lake in Hévíz."

Attila Horváth: "Hungarians believe that a friendly chat by a nicely laid table creates the best opportunity for making friends. Therefore, let's put a stop to formalities and go on to the next issue on the agenda: I'd like to invite all of you to the reception that follows this ceremony." 

### Interview of the Day



The Headmaster of Zrínyi Miklós Secondary School, Attila Horváth (44) attended the very same school as a student. Then he graduated from Eötvös Loránd University as a maths and physics teacher. A few years later he got his MSc degree in Computer Science. What makes things interesting is that the President of the National Committee of CEOI and the senior editor of this newsletter taught him there and the President of CEOI2001 was his tutor! In 1989 he—together with the above people and the present State Secretary of the Ministry of Education—wrote an IT coursebook and an exercise book for secondary school students.

Since 1981 he has been teaching maths and physics here and has been the headmaster of the school since 1993. For 12 years he has been preparing students for competitions in maths, physics and IT and his students have won 10 gold, silver or bronze medals at international olympiads.

He is married with a daughter. You cannot be surprised that his wife is a maths and physics teacher, as well. His daughter is in her third year at the University of Horticulture in Budapest and she is learning to be a landscape engineer. ? [page 2](#)

**page 1 ?** The Horváth family lives in Nagykapornak, a village 15 km east of Zalaegerszeg.

He is proud of his daughter, his students and his school. He feels honoured to be the head of such an outstanding institution, and the development the school has undergone in the past few years makes him really pleased.

His hobbies are travelling and sports i.e. chess and football. His favourite dishes are specialities of the region: sauerkraut with beans and smoked pork in tomato sauce, poppy seed and marrow strudel and cottage cheese and marrow strudel. His favourite books are *From Here to Eternity* by James Jones and *The Fourteen Carat Gold Car* by Jenő Rejto (a Hungarian writer). ☒

We'll continue the introduction of the participating countries.

## The Croatian Team ...

**Croatia** extends from the foothills of the Julian Alps in the north-west and the Pannonian Plain in the east, over the Dinara Mountains to the Adriatic coast in the south. The country has an area of 56,542 km<sup>2</sup>, with an additional 31,067 km<sup>2</sup> of territorial waters and a population of 4,381,352. The capital is Zagreb (770,058 inhabitants - the administrative, cultural and academic centre of the country).

Climate: Northern Croatia has a continental climate; Central Croatia has a semi-highland and highland climate, while the Croatian coast has a Mediterranean climate.

Population: The majority of the population are Croats. National minorities include Serbs, Muslims, Slovenians, Hungarians, Czechs, Slovaks, Italians and

others. The official language is Croatian and we use the Latin alphabet. The majority of the population are Roman Catholics, but there are a number of those of Orthodox faith, as well as Muslims and Christians of other denominations.

The Adriatic Sea, which spans from the Balkans to the Apennine peninsula, got its name from an ancient port of the same name. The part belonging to the Republic of Croatia is the east coast which extends all the way from Pevlaka in the south to cape Savudrija in the west, with all the islands, islets and cliffs along the coast, and the archipelago of Palagruza (the number of islands, islets and cliffs is more than 1700). This is a unique area in Europe ideal for cruising by motor boats, speedboats, or sailing boats, as well as for discovering underwater world. ☒

### Ivo Šeparović, Team leader



*I graduated from Zagreb University as an electric engineer. Currently I am the General Secretary of the Croatian Computer Association. I have been engaged in the organisation of our national olympiads in informatics since 1991.*

*I have been the team leader of*

*the Croatian team at IOIs since 1993 and at CEOIs since its very beginning in 1994.*

*Back home, in Croatia I organise IT summer and winter schools for primary and secondary school students. I also organise competitions and prepare all Croatian university teams for competing at ACM (CERC). ☒*

*I am to graduate from Zagreb University this year as a computer engineer. I have been helping the Croatian Computer Association with the organisation of national competitions in informatics for the past 4 years.*

*I participated at IOIs in Holland (1995) and Hungary (1996) and I won a bronze and a silver medal. As a student I also participated at ACM (CERC), where our team did pretty well.*



### Bojan Antolović, Deputy leader



## The Czech Team ...

**The Czech Republic** is located in the heart of Europe. It belongs to the countries that originally founded the tradition of CEOI competitions several years ago. The Czech Republic participated at CEOI each year except 1997 (the year when there had devastating floods in Moravia, eastern part of the Czech Republic). CEOI has once been held in the Czech Republic—it was in Brno in 1999; Brno is the second largest city in the Czech Republic. Organizers of that CEOI were mostly from Masaryk University in Brno and Charles University in Prague and they have done a good job according to the positive feedback from participants.

Competitions in mathematics and informatics have a long and rich tradition in our country. This year, we celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first national Mathematical Olympiad (MO). The olympiad in informatics is actually organized as a part of Mathematical Olympiad as its own category.

It receives financial support from the Czech Ministry of Education via the Central Committee of the Mathematical Olympiad. The winners of the national round of the olympiad are chosen to represent the Czech Republic at international competitions (IOI and CEOI).

Besides the three rounds of the national olympiad, the preparation for CEOIs and IOIs currently consists of several correspondence seminars (“KSP” organized mostly by students of Charles University is the best known one) and a one-week Czech-Polish-Slovak Preparation Camp (CPSPC), which is organized each year. We hosted this camp this year in a small town of Letovice, located north of Brno, in the middle of Moravia.




### Tomaš Pitner, Team leader



*Tomaš Pitner, PhD, the CZ team leader, works at Masaryk University in Brno as a teaching assistant. He finished the PhD in environmental informatics in 1998. However, his research is now oriented mostly to open systems based on XML and metadata technologies but also to technical and other aspects of using IT in education. He was a*


*co-author of the Czech State Information Policy in Education and participated in the international SITES M2 research project.*

*His teaching covers among these topics also basic courses on Algorithms and Programming. His non-professional interests include history (especially of Central Europe), and some sports.* 

### Daniel Kral, Deputy leader

*Daniel Kral, the CZ deputy team leader, is a student at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University. He will finish his master studies this autumn and he's going to continue studying for PhD. His research interests include algorithmic aspects of graph theory*

*problems and linear algebra methods in computational complexity.*




*Previously, he took part in CEOI'95 and IOI'96, both hosted by Hungary, where he got gold medals and the ACM IPC world finals 2000 and 2001.* 



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**Weather** ☼  
**3 day forecast**

	Today	Sun	Mon
			
	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny
<b>High</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Low</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>

The URL:  
[http://weather.yahoo.com/forecast/Siofok\\_HU\\_c.html](http://weather.yahoo.com/forecast/Siofok_HU_c.html)  
where you can complain about forecast. :-)

**Programme for August 12, 2001**

	Contestants	Leaders, observers, guests
7.30	Breakfast at the students' hall of residence	7.30 Breakfast in the school
8.00–13.00	Competition: 1 <sup>st</sup> Session	8.00–9.00 Translation of Contestants' Questions
11.00		10.00 Demonstrating the solution
12.00		13.00 Lunch at Halász-csárda
13.30	Lunch at Halász-csárda	
15.00	Evaluation. Leisure activities.	
16.30	Checking the evaluation	
19.00	Dinner at Halász-csárda	
	Cultural programmes (folk music and folk dance), and ételkóstolás	20.00 Post Competition Decision
22.00	The end of the day	

**The Menu for Today**

**Breakfast** (short list):

- ? The same as yesterday plus
- ? Scrambled eggs



*Sponge cake Somló style*

**Lunch:**

- ? Mixed meat and vegetable salad with mayonnaise
- ? Consommé
- ? Pork tenderloin Orség (a region west of Zalaegerszeg) style with parsleyed boiled potatoes, vegetables
- ? Turkey Cordon Bleu with rice
- ? Salad
- ? Sponge cake Somló style
- ? Fruit
- ? Mineral water

**Dinner:**

- ? Stuffed pork chops, rice, potatoes
- ? Salad
- ? Fruit
- ? Mineral water/a glass of beer

