



MÉXICO  
2006  
MÉRIDA, YUC.

Issue 8, Sunday, August 20th

# NEWSLETTER

## August 20th, 2006 *Today's reminders*

- With the administration office, remember to:
  - ⇒ Check your departure times
  - ⇒ Download any pictures you want to be included in the official IOI CD
  - ⇒ Collect any extra copies you want of this and previous newsletter
  - ⇒ Buy souvenirs for your loved ones. Office will be open in the morning.
- Exchange contact information with your new friends
- Pack your luggage, check you have tickets, passports, visas, money, etc.
- Have a safe trip home

## Today's schedule:

1:30

*Bus Boarding to Cancun*

4:00—22:00

*Shuttles to the Airport*

7:30 –9:00

*Breakfast*

9:00—24:00

*Free Time*

## Today's birthdays

*"Las Mañanitas" for:*

- ⇒ *Rajko Mahkovic, Slovenia*
- ⇒ *Christopher Holder, Switzerland*

## Thank you for coming to the IOI 2006. Have a great trip back home!

As everything that starts has to end, IOI 2006 officially ended yesterday with the Awards and Closing Ceremony. Most of you depart today or have already departed. On behalf of all the staff and our country, we thank you very much for coming and we hope you had a great stay.

We had a great time having you all at this great event. It was a lot of work, but it was all worth it. A lot of you came and thank us for the hard work and made us feel really glad, we are happy that you liked it: that was the point of all our efforts and late nights.

We wish you very good luck in your trips back. For those of you staying in Mexico for a few more days, enjoy your holiday! Mexico is a beautiful place, and has a lot to see. And please come back and visit us any time you want. Mexico is your home too.



We are kind of sad this has come to an end. We have great memories of the event and we are sure it will be something we will remember for life.

See you in Croatia next year!

## A dream came true



The making of the IOI 2006 has been a dream for many of us for the last 4 years (since we got the IOI assigned in Korea), but especially for the Cepeda's family.

Arturo Cepeda and Margarita Garcia, have worked all their life in altruistic projects to improve technical education levels in Mexico.

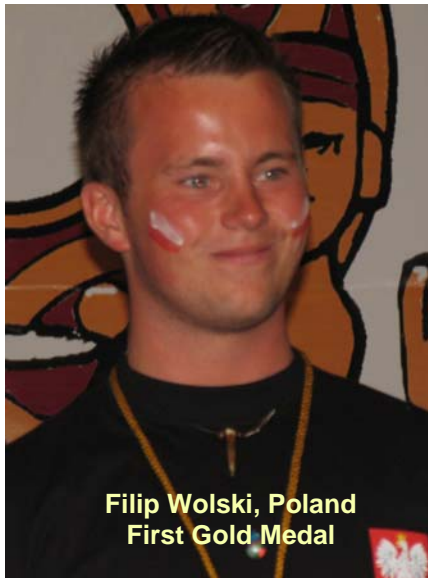
Now they have the help of their son and daughters, who also enjoy these kind of projects. They work as a tightly integrated high energy team that gives their events a very warm approach and makes many of us feel very comfortable to be around.

On behalf of all the staff that has an admiration for this family, thank you so much for the great work and inspiration!



# The Best of the breed at IOI 2006

At the IOI there are gold, silver and bronze medal, but then there is also a special recognition for the best 3 contestants all around. We interviewed them on this very special day and ask them how they feel.



**Filip Wolski, Poland**  
**First Gold Medal**

"This is a very special IOI for me, because of what happened, of course. I feel really really happy" said Filip Wolski.

"After the competition I felt good and I knew I could get a gold medal, after I started learning everybody else's scores, I got really nervous because I could possibly be among the best scores. But I didn't know I will be the best score. I learnt it at the Awards Ceremony. I was so excited and happy!", continues Wolski.

"This is my 4th, and my last IOI. So it was a great way for me (to retire). I have been going to Computer Science competitions for more than 5 years now. When I go back to Poland I will start my CS college degree at Warsaw University".

"About this IOI I will say it was great. First, because of what happened with me. Second because just being in Mexico is great. I really like it because it is very different from Poland, so it was a great experience.

In fact I will stay in Mexico for 3 more weeks to dive, because I am also a diver. I am really happy with this experience, thank you Mexico!" finished Wolski.



**Jae Hyun, Korea**  
**Second Gold Medal**

"Today is the happiest day of my life!!! I have been practicing for 5 years for this competition, although this is my first IOI. I am in 10th grade so I might be able to come to the IOI next year." said Jae Hyun from Korea.

"I wanted to win a gold, but I never never thought I will be the 2nd best gold of the competition! That was great to learn.

"About this IOI I can say the first day was easy, the second day was hard, and the judging system was very good.

Merida is a beautiful place, even though it is hot and humid, I like it a lot. Mexico is a lot better than what I have imagined, the meals, the weather is all nice. All the competitors are very nice persons and Chichen Itzá is just amazing!" continues Hyun.

"When I graduate from highschool I will study computer science. I have an inclination for Bioinformatics and Artificial Intelligence." concluded Hyun.



**Fan Long, China**  
**Third Gold Medal**

"The feeling of a gold medal is really good! This is my second IOI. Last IOI I also won a gold medal but I was in 13th place, so it is great to now be the 3rd" said Fan Long from China.

"Overall, coming to the IOIs has given me a lot of confidence and knowledge. When you solve a problem you get very happy. I use computers for everything, and I like video games a lot. I think many of us do".

"About this IOI I think Mexico has been a very good hosting country. The only thing I did not like was the sun, because my face and shoulders got burnt at the beach, and it is a little painful!"

"When I graduate from high school, I will study computer science." finished Fan Long.





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## Other Awards at the Closing Ceremony

Many other awards were given at yesterday's Awards and Closing Ceremony.

President Zide Du gave recognitions to IOI Outstanding Contribution Persons which included a list of 18 chairmen:

1. Prof. Peter Kenderov, Bulgaria
2. Dr. N. Krasovsky, Soviet Union
3. Prof. George Philokyrou, Greece
4. Dr. Peter Heyderhoff, Germany
5. Dr. Alicia Buñuelos, Argentina
6. Dr. Yngve Lindberg, Sweden
7. Mr. Ries Kock, Netherlands
8. Dr. Péter Hanák, Hungary
10. Prof. Alexandre Cerveira, Portugal
11. Dr. Gokturk Ucoluk, Turkey
13. Mr. Jari Koivisto, Finland
14. Prof. Ha-Jine Kimn, Korea
15. Prof. Don Piele, USA
16. Dr. Spyros Bakogiannis, Greece
17. Prof. Krzysztof Diks, Poland
18. Mr. Arturo Cepeda, Mexico

And IC and ISC members that retire including:

1. Dr. Wolfgang Pohl (retires from IC)
2. Prof. Don Piele (retires from IC)
1. Dr. Marcin Kubica (retires from ISC)
2. Dr. Ismail Hakki Toroslu (from ISC)
3. Dr. Jyrki Nummenmaa (from ISC)

Arturo Cepeda, Chairman of IOI 2006, recognized the help of staff, sponsors, Merida, Yucatán and Mexico's government and ministry of Education. He gave special recognition to his family, to Hugo Ryckeboer, Rob Kolstad and Jyrki Nummenmaa for their help in the organization of this event, and to Sergio Gonzalez for the great coordination of the meals and party activities.

Then Gustavo Guerrero gave the awards for the special tournaments including Robo Aluxes, Balero, Table Tennis and Futbolito.

César Cepeda, the chairman of the Host Scientific Committee gave the medal awards starting with bronze and silver.

Between Silver and Gold we had a celebration with a Marichi Band and then the special award for Rostislav Minelov Rumenov from Bulgaria. Rostislav was given this award because he was the only one to get right the "Joining Points" problem from Day 2 of the competition.

Finally came the Gold Medals. The first 8 places were given the "Diana" to celebrate by the "Mariachi Band".

The absolute first place Filip Wolski, was given a special trophy that included the 3 medals.

Among the most celebrated contestants were Phithaya Phothilimthana from Thailand, for being the only awarded girl at the competition. Henadzi Karatkevich from Belarus, for being the youngest awarded competitor (he is only 12), and for being just 2 places below the gold medal.

Chun-Sung Ferng from Taipei, for being just one medal away of the gold medal!



Rostislav Minelov Rumenov, Bulgaria



Luis Enrique Vargas, México

And Luis Enrique Vargas, alias "El Compa" for being a medalist from the Host Country.

Congratulations to all of them!!!



Phithaya Phothilimthana, Thailand



Henadzi Karatkevich, Belarus

