

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR '99 - '00

by Ignacio Perez de la Cruz

On Thursday April 29, twenty-two euromembers gathered at the Religious Activities Complex to elect Club officers for the '99-'00 year. After a heated race and impassionate speeches Benon Janos and Alessandra Orsoni emerged as president and vice-president, respectively. Benon, the former secretary and organizer of the last career fair, has pledged to improve the Club's infrastructure and engage more Club members in running the Club (see profile on page 2).

Alessandra won the vice-presidency on a tight race against newcomer Sahraoui Chaieb and email coordinator/international film series co-director Emilio Frazzoli. "I'm really excited about the new position", said Alessandra, "the European Club has always been a big source of support for me since my first days at MIT, a place to make new friends and participate to a lot of cool events".

The elections this year featured at least two candidates running for 5 out of 7 officer positions. "For the first time in recent memory (at least 5 years) we had competitive elections", recalls Sven Heemeyer, election chairman and senior Club committee member, "the elections were much more exciting and interesting, with a real discussion on the future of the Club and goals of the officers".

Andrei Simakov (treasurer), Juliana Maxim (sec-



Back row: Andrei, Emilio, Benon, Alexander
Front row: Juliana, Alessandra, Claudine

retary), Alex Hoelke (membership coordinator) and Claudine Kos (sports chair) were elected Club officers for the first time, while Emilio Frazzoli (email coordinator) was elected for his second consecutive year. "I'm happy that so many members showed interest in taking responsibility in the Club and hope that the new committee, especially the president of vice, will do as good job as the last one", quipped outgoing vice-president Maximilian Riesenhuber.

"These new officers will bring energy and new ideas to the Club", adds Ignacio, outgoing president, "expect to see some new activities in the coming months". Claudine, for instance, is wasting no time as the new sports chair - "I would like to start up an ultimate Frisbee team and a co-ed soccer team. My biggest goal is to get more female participation in the sports activities".

As the new officers fill their roles, let's wish them a successful and productive year for the European Club!

EUROS WIN OCTATHON!

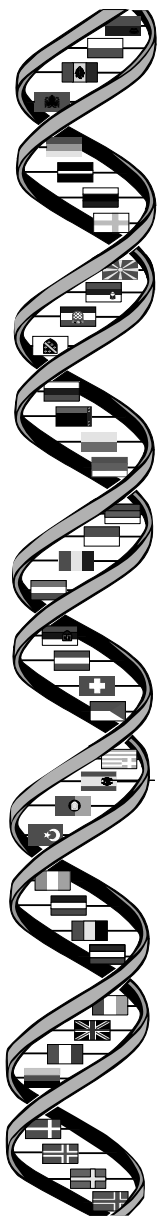
by Thomas Pedersen

Octathon is the mother of all intramural sports at MIT. The challenge of octathon is to play 8 different team sports, 7 of them during the Patriots' Day Weekend. So it is good to know a little bit of ice hockey, softball, ultimate Frisbee, American football, volleyball, soccer, water polo and basketball before you decide to spend a whole weekend on octathon. We decided to take the challenge this year, joining forces with the Scandinavians. Given the many non-European sports in octathon, we really did not expect to do that well so we signed up for the B league. However, we managed to attract a bunch of Americans who could teach us what a 'huddle' is which base to throw the softball to etc. And even though the team consisted mostly of hardcore soccer players, people adapted well, and with the psychological

continued on page 4



Euros prepare for the water polo battle





Our special guest today is a new EC President Benon Janos. We asked him to answer a few questions for our readers.

Question: How long have you been involved in the EC? In what form?

Answer: I joined the EC in early August 1997, roughly one week after arriving at MIT. At first I participated in a few events and joined a White Mountains hiking trip, but soon I made a "mistake" - to bump into Sven Heemeyer - Sven happened to be one of the lead organizers of the 2nd career fair at MIT. So I helped out in the preparations. During this period I started attending the EC

OUR SPECIAL GUEST

committee meetings on a regular basis. I started organizing little things, committed to plan a whitewater rafting trip and suddenly got elected as a secretary for the 98-99 term. After many people left the career fair team in 98, I was at the wrong time at the wrong place, and simply could not resist to jump right into the preparations of the next career fair. Many months of hard work passed but we all had a great time. After that I stepped back as the head of the career fair team ... - only to find myself in the president's position of the European Club a few weeks later...

Q.: What do you like in EC, what don't like and what do you want to change? What new do you want to bring to EC?

A.: Our Club is involved in a variety of activities and there are many people who volunteer lots of their time to keep things happening, that's definitely something I like and appreciate. On the other side there are about 1500 people on our mailing list - it would be great to see some more being actively involved. I think some still simply do not know how easy it is to organize an event, how open our policy is, that we encourage everyone with an idea to speak out. If you have fun doing something, you might simply make an

official event out of it. That is what I would like to see changed: to encourage these people to contribute to the spirit of the Club. Also, as addressed on our General Meeting by a member, it is time to reengineer our web page <http://euroclub.mit.edu>. We were one of the first Clubs with a web page years ago, but time passed by and we should improve now. It would be great to set-up some more Euroclub Alumni info on the web, too.

Q.: What is, as you see it, the future for EC?

A.: This is something that not me, but rather all members should shape, for example, on one of the committee meetings, to which every single member is always welcome. As I see it there are two general opinions: one is to let the club grow just as it is; the other is to focus on activities for our full (paying) members and to naturally limit the size of the Club. We shall see what the new millennium will bring.

Q.: What do you want to wish to EC members?

A.: Simply the best. And I wish more of you came to our committee meetings. Hope to see you there...

prepared by Andrei Simakov

April 16 – 18, NEW YORK TRIP (by Maximilian Riesenhuber).

The cool and happening EC members traditionally flee puritanical Boston on Patriots Day weekend to enjoy a couple of nights of debauchery in The City That Never Sleeps. So, this year again, 40 people left MIT in the afternoon aboard a nice luxury coach organized by the Club's own transportation specialist Clara Bodelon. We arrived at the Vanderbilt YMCA in the evening, got clean, but instead of "hanging out with all the boys" almost the whole group went to the Village and enjoyed a nice Spanish dinner. Afterwards, groups split up to sample the diverse night life of New York City. I had truly an experience for all senses. Ahhhh, New York truly has it all...

April 25, BOSTON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA CONCERT VISIT (by Sven Heemeyer).

Once again the European Club set out to satisfy its members' voracious appetite for classical music.

Saint-Saëns's *Dance Macabre* set the tone for an afternoon of demonic music. Next was Paganini's *Violin Concerto* with soloist Ivry Gitlis, who, at 78 years of age, presented

PAST EVENTS

a highly unconventional interpretation, bringing forth a melodiousness and coherence from beginning to end that is rarely heard. After the intermission, it was the orchestra's turn again to show off their superb skills in Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*.

After the concert, which took place in Harvard's venerable Sanders Theater, some 10 concert-goers decided to continue their relaxing Sunday afternoon at the Cafe Algiers. Some even opted for the Euroclub double feature and joined movie wizard Mark Skandera to see "Perdita Durango" at the Brattle Theater.



Euros enjoying themselves during wine and chese party on April 29th

May 4, BOSTON BALLET: "DRACULA" (by Antonio Bruno).

Boston Ballet's premiere –"Dracula". Music by Franz Liszt, arranged by John Lanchbery, choreography by Ben Stevenson. The dance event of the season! The sets, costumes and lighting are not just lavish but exquisitely beautiful and atmospheric crammed with ingenious stage magic.

The show lasted 2 and 1/2 hours; it was good, lots of special effects. Afterwards, we had a 45 min backstage tour, which was very-very interesting: one backstage director joined our guide for about 20 min showing us all the machinery and settings, and telling us some stories and anecdotes about what happens during the show behind the scenes.

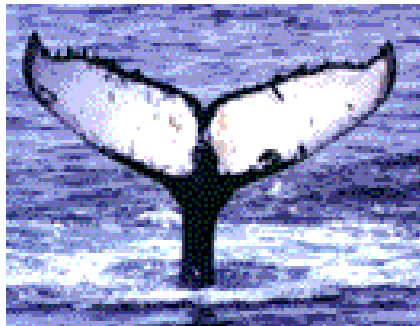
May 12, CHICAGO (MUSICAL), Shubert Theatre, Boston.

That Wednesday evening Euromembers enjoyed brilliant choreography of the famous show. Following Jess Cagle from "Entertainment Weekly" we can describe CHICAGO in one sentence as follows: "This musical is heaven nowadays. A+."

FUTURE EVENTS



SPECIAL EVENTS



Sunday, June 6, 3:30 pm-8:30 pm. WHALE WATCH TOUR.

Leaving from Boston aboard the 103-foot vessel Voyager II, we will speed to the rich feeding grounds of dolphins, sea birds and, of course, of the great whales. Experts of the New England Aquarium will provide you with detailed information about the marine life as well as about the history of Boston Harbor.

Coming this June -

END OF TERM BARBECUE. Kresge BBQ Pits (Adjacent to the Student Center).

Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines! Mark your calendars! We are going to hold our legendary End-of-term Barbecue! Come enjoy freshly grilled steaks, chicken, and sausages, delicious salads, refreshing drinks and desserts! Indulge in these treats and absorb the spring weather with your fellow euro-members. Come hear an arousing speech by Benon, our new president!

To complete the picture, we need you to bring a salad to the BBQ. If you can make a great potato salad or pasta or vegetable salad, please bring it and impress all of Europe! Keep the receipts for the ingredients and the European Club will reimburse you for these expenses! So bring your sunglasses and enjoy a sunny afternoon with your fellow Europeans. This event is open to members and nonmembers.

Saturday, June 12 - Sunday, June 13. WHITE WATER RAFTING TRIP.

The adventures will start on Saturday June 12 as we travel to the BIG MOOSE CAMPSITE in the heart of Maine. We will enjoy an afternoon hike in the mountains and camp in large tents for the night. On Sunday, we'll raft on the Penobscot river. The approximate cost will be \$130-\$140 per person, including accommodations, transportation, rafting and food.



PUB TOURS

Every Thursday at 9pm we meet in a different pub to chat about life and enjoy a cold drink. Especially for people who just arrived in Boston, this is a great opportunity to make first social contacts and friends. As a nice side effect, you will soon know most of the fun places in Boston and Cambridge. The pub-tours are announced in the beginning of each week on the European Club e-mailing list. For more info, contact Markus Palenberg pali@mit.edu

COFFEE HOUSE

Starting soon. Come join me as we tour some of the unique coffee houses of Cambridge. A cup of coffee, maybe brunch? For coffee lovers, decaf lovers and tea lovers. No experience necessary - just a willingness to meet, sip and chat.

For more info contact Else else@mit.edu

INTERNATIONAL FILM SCREENINGS

The International Film Club holds weekly screenings on **Wednesdays at 8 P.M. in room 4-237**. We try to show films from all over the world. We do not focus on any one theme, genre or region — we try to explore as much as we can given 12 weeks in a semester. Our recent screenings included Minbo, The Tin Drum, Uрга, Hyenas and

REGULAR EVENTS

Latchodrom. Everything we have shown so far was in VIDEO format but next semester we are planning to bring at least one 35mm film to campus.

Information about our screenings can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/ifilm/www>. You can also write to ifilm@mit.edu with any questions or to request to be put on our mailing list.

SPORTS

BASKETBALL

Practices will be held weekly on Thursday evenings throughout the Summer. The time and location of the practices are announced on the euro-basketball list. The practices are relaxed, non-competitive and open to everyone, even if you are not planning on playing in the IM league which starts in mid-October. Contact: Melanie Tilgner mtilgner@vhb.com or Claudine Kos ckos@rics.bwh.harvard.edu.

BADMINTON

Last Fall the European and Scandinavian clubs fielded two IM teams. Informal badminton practices will take place during the Summer. Contact: Peter G, Hebgen phebgen@mit.edu or Claudine Kos ckos@rics.bwh.harvard.edu.

VOLLEYBALL

The time and location of weekly prac-

tices are announced on the euro-volleyball e-mail list. The level of skill varies from beginners to advanced players. The volleyball practices are open to everyone. The MIT intramural league starts in the Spring. One or several teams will be formed, depending on interest. Contact: Alessandra Orsoni aorsoni@mit.edu or Claudine Kos ckos@rics.bwh.harvard.edu.

SOCCER

The European club soccer team is a group of more than 40 active players. The euro-soccer list provides information on practices, and group soccer viewing at bars etc. In the past there have been three teams playing in leagues, ranging from quite competitive to recreational. Check out the homepage at: <http://euroclub.mit.edu/soccer.html> Contact: Froney Crawford crawford@mit.edu or Claudine Kos ckos@rics.bwh.harvard.edu.

NOTE!

If you would like to subscribe one of the sports lists, write to 'ckos@rics.bwh.harvard.edu' or to 'euro-request@mit.edu'. Please **DO NOT WRITE TO THE LIST** that you want to subscribe to with a '*subscribe*' message everyone on the list will receive. If you would like to write to one of the lists, write to 'listname@mit.edu'; for example, to find a tennis partner, write to 'euro-tennis@mit.edu'.





NEWSLETTER LAUNCHED!!!

The Euroclub has launched a monthly newsletter to inform our members of news, upcoming events, recent events and other announcements. The newsletter is mailed to our members and is also available on the web at <http://euroclub.mit.edu>. Production costs for the newsletter are covered by your membership fees. If you are interested in contribution to the newsletter or have ideas or suggestions, please contact us.

Editors:

Irene Makeyeva
Ignacio Perez de la Cruz
Andrei Simakov

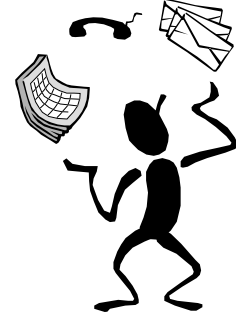
Contact: euro-newsletter@mit.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tired of your tennis partner? Need a new tennis challenge? Sign up for the third annual European Club summer tennis league! The league operates in a challenge ladder format and has players at a wide range of skill levels. Participants can challenge higher ranked players while answering challenges from lower ranked players. The goal of the league is to meet many other tennis players and have a lot of fun while doing it. The league will begin the second week of June. Sign up by e-mailing Brett Pellock (pellock@mit.edu). Include your name, e-mail address, and skill level (beginner, intermediate, or advanced).

The European Club is looking for athletes both serious and not-so-serious to play Badminton, Soccer and Ultimate Frisbee. If interested in joining us for some fun and sweat, please CONTACT Claudine Kos (ckos@rics.bwh.harvard.edu) or Melanie Tilgner (mtilgner@vhb.com).

OCTATHON. *Continued from page 1*
help of wearing cool t-shirts, suddenly we weren't just a bunch of soccer players anymore, the team members were running, throwing, shooting, pushing, hitting, catching as if we had been in training camp for weeks! Read more about the Euro-octathon success story on the web at <http://euroclub.mit.edu/octathon.html> - and mark your calendars now for the Y2K octathon. Less than 50 weeks away, it's time to start preparing!



ADD YOUR AD!

Yes, we publish advertisements. For details please contact Irene at euro-newsletter@mit.edu