



EuroLetter No. 3

THE COUNTDOWN FOR THE IX. EUROGAMES IS ON!

A heartfelt greeting
– or “Grüß Gott” as we say in Munich –

To all participants, friends and others who are interested, as well as representatives of the media from all over the world. By means of this EuroLetter we want to inform you about everything of importance concerning the EuroGames 2004. We would be very pleased to receive your questions, wishes, suggestions and criticism. With this in mind we hope you will now enjoy reading this EuroLetter, and we look forward to your feedback.

Your EuroGames Team in Munich

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REGISTRATION UP-TO-DATE

The countdown is running: The sports registration ends on 30th April 2004. Please register yourselves therefore soon and in time! Around 4000 sportswomen and sportsmen registered already themselves. This amounts to 80% of the planned and expected 5000 participants. We thus hope to be able to welcome the 5000th participant soon!

Top 10 registration overview

The countdown is running: Only 118 days up to the opening ceremony! And here is the utilization of the sports events, which can be booked:

- Volleyball 94%
- Basketball 90%
- Table Tennis 89%
- Track and Field 89%
- Handball 85%
- Dancing 66%
- Squash 55%
- Tennis 55%
- Triathlon 54%
- Bowling 53%

Registrierung for women's basketball teams has been closed

Unfortunately, registration for basketball teams had to be closed due to fully booked capacities. Only some limited places are left for men's teams. Women's teams are already complete. Women who still want to register for the basketball tournament will be placed onto a waiting list. Please send us an e-mail to: basketball@eurogames.info. We can not secure a participation.

Registration for golfing is closed

Unfortunately, registration for golfing is now closed. Our intake capacity of 88 participants

for golf has been achieved. Participants, who register now for golfing, will be put on a waiting list. Unfortunately, we cannot ensure a start.

Registration for football has been closed

We are overwhelmed by the number of registrations for our EuroGames soccer tournament. Right now the capacities we've originally planned are fully booked. As our goal is to open registration to as many sportspeople as possible we are doing our very best to get more teams involved. First we register you on a waiting list and will inform you very soon whether your team will be able to participate at the EuroGames 2004 in Munich. Please stay in touch with us and contact football@eurogames.info for registration on the waiting list and for further questions. We are quite optimistic that our slogan "Munich sports the rainbow" will become true for you also.

Registration for Badminton is closed

The registration for Badminton had to be closed ahead of time. Registration exceeded the maximal number of participants of 350. Badminton players, who still register now, will be put onto a waiting list. There is now guarantee for a starting place.

Swimming is booked out!

Now even the waiting list is closed. All swimmers, who will still get a starting place, will receive e-mail from our participant support service within the next couple of weeks. We've done everything we could to offer further starting places. We did however succeed to extend the contingency. But now all possibilities Munich is offering are definitely utilized.

50% women – not a fantasy rate any longer!

A rate of women participants of 50% is not a dream! It was achieved for the first time four





years ago during the last EuroGames in Zurich. In the meantime the rate of women participants in Munich is nearly reaching 40%!

One year after the female national football team won the World Cup, chances are good, that the sports enthusiasm of many women of all sporting levels, is bringing them to a summery Munich. Basketball, karate, football and dancing are the "Top Four" disciplines of women, closely followed by table tennis, golf, free climbing as well as triathlon.

Basketball has a women rate of 77 %, Karate 69 %, 20 teams (!) have already registered for football, amongst them a team from Lithuania. Welcome!

Olympic site secured for the EuroGames

For the first time in their history, the EuroGames will take place on Olympic ground! Europe's biggest sporting event under the sign of the rainbow will take place in the middle of the Olympic park. The sporting venue is framed by the historic and striking tent roof construction of 1972, which can also be found in the pictogram of the Munich EuroGames.

The sporting venue comprises the Olympic swimming hall, where all swimmers meet under the light-flooded hanging roof as well as the



Olympic hall in which many competitions like dancing and chess will take place.

The half marathon will mainly take place in the green of the Olympic park. Other sport events like football and beach volleyball will take place on the site of the Munich Sports Academy. In the centre of the Olympic park lies the Olympic lake.

In the middle of the Olympic park lies the Rainbow Village with its PR centre, the official information booth, a stage and many more things on offer. Accreditation as well will take place on the Olympic site. From the nearby Olympic mountain you have a fantastic view onto the cityscape of Munich and onto the Alps. It will be a place full of exciting encounters!

POLITICAL CLAIM OF THE EURO-GAMES

Just like the CSD (the Christopher Street Day celebrations or Gay Pride), the EuroGames are not only entertainment and fun: they also claim to contribute to the acceptance of Lesbian/Gay forms of life. That's why during the EuroGames we support participants, who, due to the cultural and/or political surroundings, cannot move about as freely in their countries as we do here in Germany. But in our own country, too, we would like to continue to accomplish a reduction of – unfortunately still existing – prejudices, open or hidden resentments and discriminations in the private or professional sector.

The support of a broad public through the political parties represented in the Munich city council and also the financial commitment of renowned companies help us a lot here. We hope that the EuroGames strengthen many participants from the so-called outreach countries





in their self-confidence, so that tolerance and open lesbian/gay life will as well be possible in these countries one fine day.

ACCOMMODATION DURING THE EUROGAMES

During the EuroGames you should be able to concentrate completely on the sport, the numerous cultural events and life in the city. For that reason we offer you a wide selection of accommodation, from which we are sure you will find something to suit you.

Have a look! Surely you will find a suitable offer! All information regarding the accommodation can be looked up on our homepage under www.eurogames.info/2004/participants/accommodation_e.html

Hotels

Together with our partner agency Contour Travel Services in Munich we have collected a list of attractive hotels for you, where you can find rooms to suit every budget.

Hosted Housing

Those of you who would prefer to stay in a private room in the Munich "scene" should apply for private accommodation, which will be made available to the participants of EuroGames by the gays and lesbians of Munich.

Olympic Regatta Course

Accommodation at the Rowing Regatta Course Single, double and dormitory rooms are available especially for the rowers and triathletes who wish to stay close to the sports venue.

Camping

Finally, for those of you who are fond of nature, we have reserved space at camping sites.

Campingplatz Thalkirchen
Mrs. Monika Noelle
Zentralländerstraße 49
D-81379 München
Tel: +49 (0)89 - 723 17 07
Fax: +49 (0)89 - 724 31 77
Booking catchword: "EuroGames"

or

The Tent
Mr. Olaf Schäfer
In den Kirschen 30,
D-80992 München
Fax: +49 (0)89 - 175090
e-mail: see-you@the-tent.com
web: www.the-tent.com

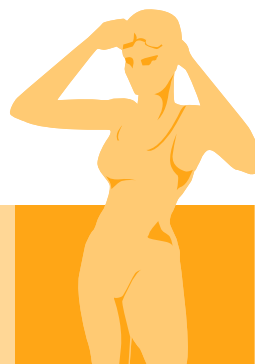
Should you have further questions:
accommodation@eurogames.info

By the way: Even visitors of the EuroGames can book the accommodation. You just need to register free of charge as a visitor and you have access to the complete accommodation and cultural programme!

WOMEN, BE CURIOUS!

Women shall feel comfortable at the IX. EuroGames! Great importance is attached to the fifty-fifty gender distribution at the Games.

At the big opening ceremony in the Olympic hall a female and a male presenter share the microphone. Together with Marla Glen and other stars from the scene they will give their best to root for the sportswomen and sportsmen marching in. During the cultural week, which already starts on 24th July, several lesbian and gay choirs are part of the programme, the powerful-voiced Katharina Herb will be singing, the EuroGames





will be showing films for women and the actress Ulrike Folkerts will possibly do a reading performance.

Also in the leisure programme will be "Sport" especially for women: Parallel to the sporting events will be various trekking and hiking tours to the attractive lakes and mountains just a stones throw from the city. These will be organized by the HikeDykes.



The highlight will of course be the Mega-Women-Only Party! Woman, hold your breath in anticipation!

Contact for women: women@eurogames.info

BENEFIT FOR OUTREACH-PROGRAMME

With the outreach programme, the EuroGames are sponsoring mainly Eastern European sportspersons with low income. A great amount of the funds were raised through various benefit events.

The next benefit event for you to mark in your calendars is the Galaball to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the gay-lesbian dance group LUST. The group is the oldest gay-lesbian sports club in Munich and one of the biggest dance groups in Germany. So don your tux and dance your boots off! Entry is from 7pm on April 3rd at Heide Volm, Bahnhofstr. 51, München-Planegg. Tickets are 20 € and can be booked on the homepage www.tanz-lust.de.

INTEGRATION – AN IMPORTANT CONCERN OF THE IX. EURO-GAMES

Our delegate for the disabled, Iris Herwald-Schulz, daily receives questions about participation from sportspersons with disabilities. To date everyone was able to register as a participant. If possible all persons will be integrated in the sporting events and grading will be conducted in a separate category.

The cultural and sporting support programme leaves no wishes unfulfilled and will stand under the heading of integration of ALL people. The big opening ceremony on 29th July will host artists of different nationalities, different sexual preferences as well as persons with and without disabilities.

Many activities on Coubertin Square in the Olympic park will mesmerize numerous participants. Here is the meeting place away from the sporting venues. Wheelchair races and wheelchair basketball will be carried out- and everyone can participate and try it out.





A special chess-tournament for blind and sight-impaired people will be held and a wheelchair dance contest will be amongst the dance events.

We are very pleased that a soccer team in which disabled players play along with non-disabled, has registered.

For further information write to Iris:
specialneeds@eurogames.info

AKTION MENSCH – A SPONSOR OF THE EUROGAMES

The biggest and most renowned German aid organisation for the disabled, Aktion Mensch, is one of the sponsors of the EuroGames! The organisation is aiding the games with 60,000 Euro.

The money is allocated for the integration of the disabled during the games in summer. Venues that are accessible for the disabled, transport, info material, deaf-language translators for many events of the cultural and support programmes and much more, can be financed with this aid.

For many decades Aktion Mensch is promoting equal standing of disabled persons in Germany and since a few years ago also in Eastern and Southeast Europe.

In 1997 Aktion Mensch, then still known as Aktion Sorgenkind, commenced "Aktion Grundgesetz", a programme which will assist the enactment of the Anti-discrimination laws of the German constitution.

EuroGames are extremely glad of the assistance of Aktion Mensch.

"THE MOST EMOTIONAL ADVERTISING MEDIUM OF THE EUROGAMES..."

Karl H. Prestele interviews Florian Reimann, Director of the EuroGames Trailers (shortened version)

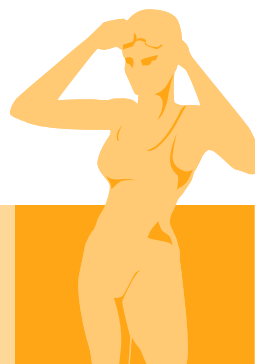
KHP: The first part of your trailer unquestionably is very antique. Is that a personal preference of yours or do you see a relationship to the EuroGames in that?

FR: I am a great fan of the antique time period. I have read much about it and always searched for the homosexual aspects at the sporting events of the old Greeks. The young athletes had- like all young men in those ages- a kind of mentor, an older man, who also introduced them to sexuality. That is how I understood the sources anyway.

KHP: Your own shootings for the scenes at the beginning of the trailer were somewhat less luxurious?

FR: Yes, but not really unpleasant. We received great lighting and stage equipment from the "Cinegate" company free of charge. On the day of shooting we had some problems with the weather, because it rained frequently and at night it was so cold, that it felt like minus 20 degrees. It was very bad for the torch bearer who was only wearing swimming trunks, and the priestesses who had to sit on the wet lawn! But despite this the atmosphere was incredible and the participants are still talking about the shoot today, even if it lasted from ten in the morning until seven o'clock the next morning. And all that for just 60 seconds of film.

KHP: In the second part of the trailer you are then mixing typical sights of Munich with scenes



from gay and lesbian events. This part is in contrast to the beginning much faster paced.

FR: Yes, indeed. Intentionally. The slow prologue is supposed to be the lead-up to the topic and the rapid-fire cutting of the scenes ignites a gay-lesbian firework and shows how colourful the gay-lesbian community in Munich is.

KHP: This effect is enhanced by the dramatic music. Where does that originate from?

FR: From a well known piece of music. From "Summer", the third part of Vivaldi's famous "Four seasons". That you can't recognize it straight away is due to the adaptation. Ingolf Nössner, a friend of mine, composed a piece of Techno music that can be played exactly on top of Vivaldi's piece. That was a lot of work- the mixture between classic and techno- but it was very effective.

KHP: The 35-millimeter format was a prerequisite for the trailer being shown in cinemas as well. By now it seems to have a real victory march through European cinemas.

FR: Not only there. It can even be seen in America, in a cinema in Hartford/Connecticut. The premiere was at the gay-lesbian "Verzaubert" film festival in Munich and it then toured through five other cities in Germany with the festival. Now it is shown three times a day at the Atelier Cinema in Munich, in Bremen, Fulda, Hannover and Berlin as well as film festivals in Zurich and Brussels and on Czech television. And even at the Berlin film festivals, the Berlinale. Four times in the "Panorama"-series, at the "Teddy-short-filmroll" and also at the Teddy-Award ceremony in front of 3000 guests. It's crazy.

KHP: How do you explain this success?

FR: It is very surprising for me! But moving pictures always fascinate people and the music is very forceful. The film concentrates exactly on

this, the pictures and the music, and works without one spoken word. Pictures and music always reach the feelings of people. The trailer is the most emotional tool of advertising for the EuroGames! It delivers less information, but with more feeling!



Director Florian Reimann

KHP: What will your future as a director look like?

FR: The trailer is really my first test. Then there are already plans for an official EuroGames-film. It is supposed to be a feature length movie with a story arc, a type of "creative documentary". Financial backing is still uncertain because EuroGames cannot finance it and we do not have any sponsors as yet. We would need 15,000 Euro. The realisation really depends on finding the funds.

So you can see that here we are also looking for sponsors, that will help to realize this project.

MÜNCHEN – MUNICH

Secret capital of Germany, most northern town of Italy, a worldly village, cultural mile, Schickleria (= the "in" scene in Munich), tradition, gay and lesbian culture... Munich has many faces. In order to prepare you for your visit to this city, we want to introduce Munich with all its facets in the coming EuroLetters and naturally include tips for the scene and sights.

So that you will have the opportunity to explore the city by yourself, all registered participants





will receive at accreditation in Munich a MVV-ticket (for use on all buses, trams, Underground and fast suburban trains) with which you can cruise around within the city limits to your hearts desire.

The centre of the town is the Marienplatz. Here you will find the neo-gothic town hall. Daily at 11am you will be able to admire the famous Glockenspiel. On this square the annual demonstration and party of the Gay Pride "CSD" is held (this year on the Saturday before the Euro-Games! So visit early and celebrate Gay Pride with us) with the Lord Mayor, Christian Ude, as the main speaker and patron. "With view of Berlin and Paris I can say, that a heterosexual Lord Mayor can also make good lesbian and gay politics..." he said at the CSD 2002. He underlines his engagement by heading the parade together with his wife and the city councillor Thomas Niederbühl of the gay "Pink List". Other openly lesbian and gay city councillors from all political parties can be found throughout the celebrations.

At the Marienplatz various Underground and fast suburban trains connect, making the square the traffic hub of Munich. Many small alleyways lead from the square and of course the large pedestrian shopping street to Karlsplatz. Very well liked is the way past our sponsor Galleria Kaufhof into the Sendlinger Str. towards Sendlinger Tor, where you can find the monument to all victims of AIDS. Here begins the Glockenbach Quarters, the gay-lesbian centre of town. But before we head on, we will enjoy a cool beer at the Sendlinger Tor (which is the Gate to Sendling) and we will tell you more about the Glockenbach Quarter in the next EuroLetter.

Small language guide

Munich lies in Bavaria, the southernmost state of Germany. Here not only German is spoken, but above all Bavarian, a language which has developed in the course of history and can be understood by non-Bavarians only with difficulty.

So that you can survive a conversation with the natives, we will teach you some basic expressions.

Firstly you must know, that the colours of the Bavarian flag are white-blue and not blue-white. The pattern of colour does not really change, but with this distinction you can score the first points with the real Bavarians.

Since the Bavarians are generally a very optimistic people, one usually greets each other with „Grüß Gott“ (=Greet God), even though nobody has actually met him face to face.

Auswärtige (=anyone not from Bavaria) will principally have to undergo a Bavaria-test. This contains three blocks: a pronunciation test (which half the citizens of Munich will fail as well), a logic test and a colour test.





The pronunciation test will include the correct recital of the word: "Oachkatzelschwoaf" (German: Eichhörnchenschwanz, English: squirrel tail),

The logical conclusion to the row of numbers oans, zwoa,? ... (Solution: gsuffa, not drei- The saying being "One, two, down the hatch") and the above mentioned colour test of the Bavarian flag.

This you should try to remember until next time, so we can build on that.

A FINAL WORD

... for us to say: A lot of pleasant anticipation to the EuroGames in Munich, the lesbian/gay highlight in 2004 and lots of success with your training.

If you still have any questions, then the best way would be to write to:
support@eurogames.info

Or else send us your questions by post to:

EuroGames München e.V.
Blumenstraße 28
80331 Munich
Germany

or to:

EuroGames München e.V.
Post Box 33 07 02
80067 Munich
Germany

Phone: +49 (0)89 - 59 04 36 91
Fax: +49 (0)89 - 59 04 36 90

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