

First-hand report from the class of 2007

The Introduction Week

Sunday, October 7, 2007 - "Who is who?" at Enchilada

Summer semester break was over and we were all ready to face a new challenge: The FIM-Experience! Nobody knew what to expect and more importantly, whom we would spend the next five semesters with. Thus, eager to meet our new classmates, we met on Sunday night, a day before the official semester kick-off, for a first inofficial get-together. Relying upon the experience of the Augsburg-locals among us, we went to a place called Enchilada - a nice Spanish-style restaurant/cocktail-bar - for some snacks, drinks and chatting.

Monday, October 8, 2007 - Introduction Week, Day I

Our first official "Get-together" (you'll get used to the FIM-slang quite quickly) started at 9am in Augsburg. After breakfast (Bavarian "Weißwurst" and pretzel), Prof. Buhl, Prof. Zagst, together with our supervising tutors Julia, Matthias and Martin, layed out the further curriculum to us and told us how we could get involved with FIM. To relax the atmosphere we then started with some "Get-to-know-games". Everybody started to chum up with the new fellow students and the tenseness dissolved noticeably. After lunch we jumped in on our first workshop: Information Management. Based on some readings we had been given prior to the semester start, we discussed several questions and prepared some presentations. By the way, Prof. Meier tried to learn our names and he really managed to remember an impressive 20 out of 22 names (first *and* last name) correctly in as little as 5 minutes ;-)

Tuesday, October 9, 2007 - Introduction Week, Day II

On Tuesday the next workshop started in the morning hours: Mathematical Optimization. Prof. Optiz discussed some open question and prepared us for the pre-test. In the afternoon Prof. Bamberg took over and gave us some insight on Stochastic Processes. I assume everyone had different feelings about this lesson. Mathematicians looked quite relaxed, while information management or business administration students among us seemed not so at ease with it. However, we were all told not to worry about the pre-tests.

Wednesday, October 10, 2007 - Introduction Week, Day III

On Wednesday we only had one workshop: Capital Investment and Finance. Mr. Rathgeber gave a short wrap-up and we worked on some examples and questions. The workshop lasted till 12 pm so we had the afternoon off to prepare for the pre-tests scheduled for the next day.

Thursday, October 11, 2007 - Introduction Week, Day IV

And yet Thursday was there: Four tests, two in the morning, two in the afternoon. There is not much to say. No drop outs, some exhausted faces, all happy for the day to be over.

Friday, October 12, 2007 - Introduction Week, Day V

After the pre-tests the day before everybody really seemed a lot more relaxed on Friday. On schedule for the day was another introduction into the FIM Program. Prof. Buhl started a really intriguing discussion on the prevailing subprime crisis. It gave us a good insight on what was actually happening on the financial markets worldwide and what the triggers of this crisis really were. Afterwards we formed groups to take part in a scavenger hunt organised by the class of 2006. The goal was to score as many points as possible to win the grand prize ;-). We had to solve a couple of funny and embarrassing tasks – thanks guys ;-). Exhausted, we paused for a café before fulfilling our final task: A self-invented performance in Augsburg downtown (luckily no one knew us there). The event ended with some nice Mexican dinner and cocktails...

The first semester takes off...

—Monday, October 15, 2007 - The semester takes off

One week after the Pretests the turbulent beginning has given way to an ordered curriculum. There are 7 disciplines: Introduction to FIM (Prof. Buhl). Capital Investment & Finance (Chair Steiner); Stochastic Processes (Prof. Bamberg); Optimization (Prof. Opitz); Business Informatics (Prof. Meier); Software Engineering (Chair Reif); Project Management (Prof. Bauer).



The lecture days last long but are made up by free Fridays. From time to time working sheets are to be delivered and presentations have to be prepared in groups. These tasks help a lot to stay up to date on the lectures' topics and thus made preparing for the exams a lot easier...

Friday, October 19, 2007 - Case Study Day

The Case-Study-Day was part of the lecture Introduction to FIM. In interdisciplinary groups of 3 to 4 students we got the chance to work on a multidisciplinary business case. The case shed light on different topics of Finance and Information Management and every group was assigned to one of them. With support from experts (who really helped a lot) every team prepared a final presentation. After presenting the results to the audience a wrap-up discussion followed. Due to very tight time constraints we almost missed lunch. To our surprise this turned out not to be a problem at all - Lunch was provided by FIM in form of free pizza for everybody! Delicious...

Saturday, November 17, 2007 - Q&A with Mr. Wolfgang Gärtner – CIO Deutsche Bank

Today we had a chance to experience what it means to be part of the FIM network. Mr. Wolfgang Gärtner, CIO of Deutsche Bank and lately named CIO of the Year 2007, paid us FIM students a visit at the University of Augsburg. In a relaxed atmosphere, accompanied by some breakfast, we had the chance to, in a small group of only 12 students and Mr. Gärtner, ask all questions we always wanted to ask a high-ranging board member! Mr. Gärtner gave us an insight on his daily work, his career path and (to a certain extent) on his private life.



Monday, November 19, 2007 - Euro Finance Week:

Today we went to Frankfurt to visit the Euro Finance Week. It is the most important conference for the finance and insurance industry in Europe. Here we were able to listen to lecturers like Josef Ackermann and Roland Koch and visit parts of the conference which is usually not open for students. Besides, there was a great dinner and we could meet a lot of interesting people.

Thursday, November 22, 2007 - Scholarships and Mentor-Meets-Mentee:

Four prestigious scholarships – two from Allianz Global Investors, two from IBM – are to be distributed among us 23 students. First, there was a written application. Hereupon our main sponsors Allianz Global Investors and IBM invited 6 students each for an interview. Two weeks later the winners are happy and relieved! Anyway, by the end of November the most important topic for us is the mentor-assignment process. We were able to indicate our first-choice among our many sponsor companies. At the mentor-meets-mentee meeting we are given the

opportunity to get to know our potential mentors. In a set-up similar to speed-dating, every one of us has a 30 minutes conversation with three mentor companies of his choice. After that event, the matchings (who will get whom as a mentor) are being prepared by our tutors in a period of a few weeks.

Friday, November 23, 2007 - Bridging the Gap

Today we were able to visit "Bridging the Gap", a conference organized by our fellow FIM students from the class of 2005. With "The financial impact of Web 2.0" as a topic, we had the chance to discuss with many high-ranking businessmen about that very intriguing and up-to-date topic. Among the most outstanding speeches were those from Klaus Martini (Chief Investment Officer, Deutsche Bank) und Alexander Samwer (Founder of Jamba and the European Founders Fund).

The ending of the first semester

Monday, December 3 – Friday, December 7, 2007 - Reading Week

Our "shortened" semester went by quickly and so December, the month of our written tests, is here at last. After the last lectures, we had a week off to prepare for our seven exams in the fields of mathematics, informatics and economics. At that time we were really busy: Only few days for subjects we had not studied before FIM. However, the multidisciplinaryity of our group helped a lot in preparing for the exams. As we studied in small groups, we were able to help each other. For instance, the business students among us were able to ask the mathematic students or informatics students for some help and advice and vice versa.

Monday, December 10 – Wednesday, December 19, 2007 - Exams

11 days, 7 exams! Some of them really difficult, others feasible. At the end everybody was really looking forward to a well-earned Christmas break.

Wednesday, December 19, 2007 -Over and out

Finally, we are done! Today we finished our finals. We decided to meet for our monthly Jour-Fix on the very same day at about 6 pm to handle some administrative topics before Christmas. It was a really important Jour-Fix this time because the mentor-matching was to be announced. We had been waiting for three long weeks, and every one of us was really curious. Besides our mentors, we were given the topics of our Bachelor Project which was scheduled to start after the Christmas break. In these projects we work in teams on certain topics which are of interest for our partner companies. Sustainable investment, company valuation or outsourcing are just some of the really interesting topics... Afterwards we went to UNIKUM, a bar right on campus, for our X-Mas party. We sat together, ate & drank, and later went to Jo's place for a little get-together. Here we had a chocolate fountain (courtesy of Frans) with fruits, prepared by Jo. The party lasted till about 4 am, the chocolate fountain was awesome, and every one of us had a great time.



Thursday, December 20, 2007 – Monday, January 7, 2008 - Christmas Break

For Christmas break everybody went home to have a few relaxed days together with family and friends. Since we had just finished our exams and bachelor projects weren't to start after the break, we could fully enjoy the break. The two week break was good to recharge our batteries and to get prepared for the bachelor phase...

The Soft Skill Seminar and the Bachelor Kick-off

—Tuesday, January 8 – Saturday, January 12, 2008 - Soft Skill Seminar in Reimlingen

Early in the morning we went on our journey to Reimlingen. After a one hour drive from Augsburg, we were cordially received with breakfast – pretzels and coffee. After the check-in, Prof. von Rosenstiel from the LMU welcomed us and the seminar started.



During the first two days we covered topics such as leadership (behavior and success), job motivation/satisfaction and team spirit. Since the days lasted till about 5.30 pm, we had the evenings off for some leisure activities like soccer, table tennis, movies or playing cards.



On Thursday we left our seminar room for some outdoor experience. Accompanied by two trainers from the outdoor-company Faszinatour we had to find our way through the woods with the help of GPS and compasses. Throughout the day we were introduced to some basic techniques to survive in the "wilderness" such as starting a fire with firestones or trap and slingshot constructions.



For the last two days of the seminar Prof. Frey from the LMU visited us in Reimlingen. People management, team reflection and self-development were the topics we worked on.



Monday, January 14, 2008 - Bachelor Kick-off

Back home from the Soft Skill Seminar we arranged to meet our mentors for the bachelor kick-off meeting. Each team met with their business partners to discuss the details of the bachelor project. Introducing each other, formal guidelines, organizational framework and of course the content of the thesis were on the agenda. After the meeting we were all set to start with brainstorming and literature research.

The Tech Days Erlangen

Sunday, March 2, 2008 – Check-in at Bayerischer Hof

As part of our interdisciplinary education, we are given the possibility to join the Tech Days („Techniker Tage“) together with the 10 th Class of the Bayerische Eliteakademie (BEA). In the next three days we will experience some highly interesting and cutting-edge technologies. The Tech Days' main purpose is to give students with a non-technical background some basic understanding and insight into today's most important technologies.

Around 5 pm everybody is slowly pouring into the hotel's parking lot and checking in at the frontdesk. We haven't seen each other for quite a while since we've been all working on our bachelor thesis for the last 2 months. Hence, it's nice to see everybody again. In fact, being accommodated in a luxurious 4-Star hotel plots the get-together in a fairly nice setting ;-)

We immerse ourselves in our super-nice, flat-screen equipped double



rooms, unpack, relax a bit and get ready for dinner. Together with the BEA-Group, we are given a short introduction to the next three days' schedule by Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Durst, Academic President of the Eliteakademie. Afterwards we enjoy a top-notch dinner-buffet, wine and some nice conversations.



Monday, March 3, 2008 – Wednesday, March 5, 2008 – Talking Tech...

During the next three days we are able to do many interesting experiments in the fields of LASER and Semiconductor technologies, visit some High-Tech start-up companies, have the chance to get into a semiconductor clean room facility, have a Q&A dinner in one of the best restaurants in Erlangen with Professor Manfred Geiger, member of the German "Wissenschaftsrat", the most important academical consulting committee in Germany – and these are just some of the highlights! On Wednesday, everybody is convinced that the Tech Days were absolutely worth the trip! We all had a lot of fun, learned a lot and were able to gather some energy for the upcoming weeks – we are all in the middle of our bachelor projects...

Wednesday, April 2, 2008 – Presentation of Bachelor Thesis

Three months of hard work have finally come to an end. For those of you who don't follow our blog that closely: Within the last three months we worked in groups of 2-6 on our bachelor thesis. Despite the work load, we had a lot of fun, were able to learn a lot and had the chance to get to know each other better.

The presentations were held at the TU campus in Garching. Beside the board members and us, the audience was made up of many high-ranking representatives from our partnering companies. At the end of the day, everybody was happy to be through with the project. Yet the compliments of the company representatives and professors made up for the laborious time.

As the second semester wasn't to start before April 14th, we all headed to our well-earned vacation...

Monday, April 14th, 2008 – A new semester begins...

After a short week of vacations, the whole class starts straight into the 2nd semester. Prof. Buhl's contracyclical content planning cares for adequate workload from the beginning on and will hopefully avoid peak efforts by the end of the semester in return. Well, let's see about that... However, the project work on the subprime crisis was very intriguing and now I suppose we can claim to have a fairly good insight on what led to the crisis...ABCP, CDOs, RMBS, SIV, SPV...it's all in our heads now – thanks to FIM ;-)

The second semester

Monday, April 21st, 2008 - This semester's courses

After presenting our findings on the primary drivers of the subprime crisis, we were able to shift attention to the usual course work. Every FIM semester is split into two parts of six weeks each and ends with a one week exam period. Thus, for the next couple of weeks we will hear lectures on the following topics:

- Investment Analysis (Prof. Steiner)
- Decision Support Systems (Prof. Bichler)
- Managerial Decision Analysis (Prof. Tuma)
- Integrated Risk-/Return Management (Prof. Buhl)
- Reference Modelling in the Financial Service Industry (Prof. Krcmar)

Monday, May 5th, 2008 – Friday, May 9th, 2008 - Some practical insights

This week we had the opportunity to listen to several guest lectures in our classes. First Sten Dangaard, CFO of SGL Carbon AG gave us some insight on corporate financing within an internationally operating corporation. More specifically, he showed us how he led SGL out of a severe crisis it was in a couple of years ago. He did so by changing the financial structure of the company the issuance of new corporate bonds and a raise in equity.

On Wednesday and Friday, we were payed a visit by Mr. Weiss from the Sparkassen u. Giroverband on the topic of SEPA (Single European Payment Area) and Mr. Krämer from LBBW on reference modelling in the banking industry, respectively.

„Strike a new path“ event series – 3 days, 3 different topics, more than 100 applications...

This year, the FIM Marketing Event Team aimed for an ambitious project: offering three intriguing days for undergraduates in cooperation with our business partners.

With the event series dubbed „Strike a new path...“ we wanted to give prospective FIM students the chance to get some hands-on experience on the topics we work on during the course of our studies.



The poster features a mountain landscape with a signpost at the top left. The FIM logo is in the top right. The main title is "Strike a new path ...". Below it are three event boxes: "Consulting live" (A.T. Kearney), "Women & Career" (Allianz), and "Risk Management live" (Allianz). At the bottom, there is a call to action and logos for FIM, Allianz, and TUM.

Strike a new path ...

Consulting live
Was: Case Study Day mit A.T. Kearney
Wann: Freitag, 09. Mai 2008
9:00 - 17:00 Uhr
Wo: A.T. Kearney
Lehrstuhlplatz 5
80333 München
... In Consulting

Women & Career
Was: Branch mit erfolgreichen Frauen im Management
Wann: Mittwoch, 14. Mai 2008
18:00 - 18:00 Uhr
Wo: Universität Augsburg
Universitätsplatz 16
86159 Augsburg
... In Leadership

Risk Management live
Was: Case Study Day mit Allianz Global Investors
Wann: Freitag, 16. Mai 2008
18:00 - 17:00 Uhr
Wo: Allianz Global Investors
Nymphenburgerstr. 112-116
80636 München
... In Finance

Du befindest Dich im Grundstudium/Bachelorstudium?
Bewirb Dich jetzt mit CV unter www.tum.de/fim/

www.uni-augsburg.de/fim
www.tum.de/fim

Friday, May 9th, 2008 - „Strike a new path...in Consulting“ - A.T. Kearney Case Study Day

From the many applications we received during the weeks in the run-up of the event, we hand-picked 18 students to be part of the case study day. We met at the Munich office of A.T. Kearney at 9 am. After a short introduction, the participants worked in groups of five on the case study. During the course of the day, they tried to come up with solutions for a new IT strategy for an internationally operating brewing company. The official part of a challenging day ended with the groups presenting their results to an executive board of the company made up by A.T. Kearney consultants. Afterwards we all headed downtown for a get-together in a Biergarten.



Wednesday, May 14th, 2008 - „Strike a new path...in Leadership“ – Women & Career

Today's motto was „girls only“. 20 solely female students were given the opportunity to attend a Q&A session with

three successful business women:



Ms. Kathie Schönleben, IBM : Insurance Leader Europe Northeast, Leader Business Development Insurance Germany



Ms. Daniela Sfameni, Allianz Global Investors: Head of HR Development



Ms. Christine Bortenlänger: CEO of Bayerische Börse, Managing Director of Börse München

After the students had all their questions answered, a lavish brunch buffet gave way to more casual conversations between the attendants and the three guests.



Friday, May 16 th, 2008 - „Strike a new path...in Finance“ – Risk Management Live

“Less risk is better than more risk?” – you think it’s always that easy? Well, the 16 students that were invited to the Allianz Global Investors’ headquarters in Munich had the chance to find out themselves. After a short introduction by Mr. Goldbrunner, former CEO of AGI Europe and current head of the advisory board of Risklab Germany GmbH, the students were split into groups and were assigned one of two topics: the savings and loan crisis or the downfall of the Barings Bank, an UK based investment bank that went bankrupt owing to one single man’s excessive speculative investment activity – Nick Leeson. After an exhausting yet intriguing day and many lessons learned, the students successfully presented their results to a jury of AGI managers.



Monday, May 26 th, 2008 – Friday, May 30 th, 2008 - Exam period – already!?

Faster than anyone of us ever had anticipated them to come, the exams were here. The last six weeks of classes had gone by in lightening speed and we had just 4 days to get prepared for the four exams. However, in the end, we managed our way through and by Friday 12 pm we had successfully finished a week peppered with four exams and a seminar paper presentation in reference modelling. Now we were all eagerly heading for a prolonged weekend of relaxation and some partying – classes weren't to start before Wednesday...

Wednesday, June 4th – Friday, June 6th - A visit from Canada

Last week we had taken the exams for the first half of the semester. Now we had a few days off to prepare for one of this semester's highlights. For the up-coming week, we were to have the opportunity to experience a rather anglo-saxon way of teaching. Two highly renowned professors from the Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary, Canada would be visiting us this week. In the run-up we had been able to choose between "Project Turnaround" and "Information Technology and Productivity" given by Dr. Victoria Mitchell und Dr. Barrie Nault, respectively.

For means of preparation, the two lecturers had already provided us with a set of papers and case studies on the particular topics to read during the first lecture-free days of the week. The next three days were filled with discussions on the various papers and cases in class. In fact, this more hands-on approach to teaching was fun for all of us and I'd dare saying that we learned a lot

Monday, June 9 th – Second half, let's go...

Monday morning, 9 a.m. – the second half of the semester kicks off; with Discrete Time Finance held by Prof. Zagst from the TU Munich. Besides Discrete Time Finance, the next six weeks were filled with Corporate Finance by Prof. Kaserer (TU Munich) and Software for Business Applications by Holger Grandy (Uni Augsburg). To complement the lecture Integrated Risk and Performance Management by Prof. Buhl from the first half of the semester we were supposed to write another seminar paper. We formed groups, chose our topic and head-started into the research phase as the three week timeline till due date was a bit of a challenge ;-)

Wednesday, June 18 th – Guest lecture by Dr. Gurdon Wattles, Deutsche Bank

As usual with FIM, this semester was enhanced by a couple of guest speeches. Dr. Gurdon Wattles, Managing Director at Deutsche Bank and Head of Group Capital Markets Communications, joined us from London on a discussion on the subprime crisis. Although we had already covered the topic a few times, he managed to deliver many facts and insights that we hadn't been familiar with so far and thus gave us an understanding of the crisis' bigger picture. Moreover, he continued on how the crisis' impact and risk was managed from a bank's point of view in general and by Deutsche Bank in particular.

In good old FIM-manner the evening ended with a nice dinner at the Wolfsklause together with Mr. Wattles. Here, in a more laid-back atmosphere we had time to learn from Mr. Wattles about almost anything that we were interested in – life-work-balance, career-planning, possible pitfalls and so on...

Tuesday, July 1 st - Dr. Christmann, Radeberger Group



Guest Day – yet again! Dr. Albert Christmann member of the management board and head of sales and marketing of Radeberger Group, filled this day's afternoon hours by a round table discussion. In particular his point was to show us the differences, in terms of finance, in managing a privately owned company in contrast to one that is being traded publicly. Moreover, he gave us valuable advice on topics as distinct as work-life-balance, his view on career or ethics in management. Altogether a very interesting afternoon!

Wednesday, July 2nd – Friday, July 4th - Trading Seminar with Mike Smith

“Bull spread, backspread, 3 Tage Mike...short on vega, long on theta, 3 Tage Mike...” ;-) The last three days were nuts and probably the best three days of FIM, so far...Mike Smith a former investment banker and now lecturer in MSc finance programmes at the University of Reading, showed us what he was best at: Trading! Within these three days he introduced us to the world of professional investment banking: trading options, participating in FX (foreign exchange), hedging risks, setting bid-ask spreads and so on...really some in-depth trading insights, we definitely all had a blast! We buddied-up in groups of two and were seated in front of a computer with a trading simulation program. The days were structured as follows: Mike would give us some basic understanding on what we were supposed to do shortly, what to pay attention to and what to beware of – afterwards we traded a simulated trading day.

Some of us really amassed wealth beyond all our imagination, while some traded themselves to a point where they had piled up risk high enough to make their bank go bankrupt within a day ;-) Throughout the group we really had an awesome time and by and large some of us might think about a career in i-banking now...



Friday, July 25 th – Sunday, August 3 rd - Summer School

A.T. Kearney KRISP Training

Finally...all exams were done, seminar papers written and presented...basically, the second semester was almost over! As tough as it was, it went by at scaring speed; plus, now it was time for the more relaxed part of this semester:

Today, on Friday, we were invited to A.T. Kearney's Munich office for a whole day of KRISP training – Kearney's Rational and Incisive Speakers' Training! During this day theoretical and practical training were alternating. First, we would cover some important aspects and pitfalls in presenting which we would then practice through giving short presentations in front of our group. The provided video analysis turned out to be a very helpful tool – i.e. we were being filmed while giving our presentations and had the opportunity to watch those videos of ourselves while receiving helpful feedback by experienced A.T. Kearney consultants. Hence, by the end of the day I think we were all able to boost our presentational skills! For the evening, we were invited by A.T. Kearney to barysphaer, a nice restaurant in Munich where they had the best steaks I had so far ;-)

Excursion to Zurich

Saturday, 12 p.m., we are boarding our bus to Zurich – courtesy of IBM, we will spend the next three days there! After checking in into our hotel in Zurich downtown, we did a guided tour through the city. Afterwards we filled our empty stomachs with some solid food at a Swiss restaurant – all paid for, of course ;-). Around 9 p.m. the "organized" part of the day was over and we had the rest of the night to do whatever we want to – well, in fact there was only one thing we really wanted to do – recall that we just finished exams this week ;-). Hence, we all headed out into Zurich's nightlife which turned out to be quite a lot of fun – please don't mind that we will keep the details to ourselves...

Sunday morning, 9 a.m. – with just a few hours of sleep and not feeling that fit, we had hiking up the Uetliberg on schedule. The hill, far from being considered a proper mountain in any (Bavarian) sense, nevertheless posed a bit of a problem to the more sleep-deprived amongst us...however, the view from the top made up for all the suffering ;-). Again, the rest of the day was free, and most of us sought to make use of the beautiful, sunny and warm weather. Hence, we walked to the Züricher See where we spend the whole afternoon chillaxing in the sun, going for a swim or catching up with some sleep. For dinner, we were invited by IBM to a top-notch restaurant right at the lake of Zurich. As the sun set on the lake, we enjoyed ourselves with lavish food, wine and good conversations with IBM managers.

On our last day in Zurich (Monday) we visited IBM's research facility in Rüschlikon. The day was filled with many interesting presentations about the hottest topics in technology at IBM and about the company itself. The exclusive lunch gave the opportunity to speak to some high-ranking IBM managers and researchers.

Summer School at Starnberger See

Just back from Zurich yesterday night, we had to get up early and make our way to the Starnberger See where we would spend the next five days with soft-skill training. As always, our lodging was great! We were accommodated in the Hotel Schloßberg right at the Starnberger See. The days would start with breakfast buffet which we took at the outside restaurant right at the lake – there is probably no better way to start the day than watching the sun rise over the lake while enjoying some good breakfast...After that, the days were packed with individual feedback rounds, intercultural training and negotiation training. As the days usually finished around 4-5 p.m. we had enough time to relax in the sun or go for a swim. At night, we would sit by the lake with a glass of wine while listening to Jo (our musical genius) playing the guitar.

For the last day of summer school (and eventually the last day of the semester) we had organized something special. We drove up the hills to the Imster Schlucht near Innsbruck to do rafting. We were lucky with the weather and thus spend a whole day in beautiful sunshine while racing down the river with our boats at breakneck speed! Exhausted from all the paddling we then had a nice barbeque that filled our batteries quickly. For the rest of the day we relaxed in the sun, played volleyball and were (yet again) accompanied by Jo's guitar-playing ;-). As the day neared its end, one car after the other left till by sunset there were only few of us left. As the sun faded behind the mountains, the rest of us got up, said goodbye to each other, got in the cars and drove home. And thus, some of the best days within the last two semesters were over. For the next two month, most of us would do internships or write on papers till we will all gather again in October for our last "ordinary" semester in FIM...



The third semester

Thursday, October 9 th – Get-Together with the freshmen

It's been a year since we started with FIM – unbelievable how fast time has passed...however, this also means that we are no longer the youngest class – no, the class of 2008 has already started this week. Today, it's the big get-together of our class and the freshmen. To get to know each other we organized an indoor-beach-volleyball-tournament. I think everybody had a lot of fun and we had a chance to get to know the new ones...to be honest a very fine selection of students ;-) all of them very nice people!

After the exhausting match-ups we sat down for drinks and pizza and shared some of our experiences with the new class. Afterwards we headed for a cocktail-bar called "Enchilada" and with a slightly diminished group went on to the infamous Yum club - a must see for each new Augsburg citizen ;-)



Saturday, October 25th - FIM Cup at the Socca5 Arena

October 25, 2008 - this date is to become legendary throughout all FIM history. But first things first. Back in the year 1954, the German national soccer team defeats the Hungarians in an electrifying 3:2 final after a disastrous 8:3 defeat in the previous group encounter. The outsider selection of Sepp Herberger became heroes overnight.

As we all know, history repeats. A mediocre skilled but highly ambitious selection of 4th class FIM students stands ready for the challenge put upon them: Win the first FIM cup of all times. After exhaustive strategic considerations and numerous setbacks due to injuries the formation of Darius, Matze, Flo, Sven and Jo stands; unfortunately without any players in reserve. Four teams from different classes and chairs will participate in the 3.5 hours lasting battleship...



The tournament within this memorable frame starts with a bit of a shock for the 4th class sportsmen. A last minute defeat against the Kaserer team. Despite the absence of chief strategist Chris, the team manages to quickly overcome this initial demoralization and finishes the group phase on the second place, thus entering the final playoff: again facing the aforementioned chair team from Munich. What happens during the next 20 minute-match is one of those magic moments that will possibly be passed on from FIM generation to FIM generation. Goal by goal, our magnificent 5 score an incredible 10:1 victory which in fact leaves the players themselves in more amazement than the audience!

To conclude, it was a great team building event and our cramps and sore muscles during the next days had us remember the price we had to pay, the price for glory! And this is how, for a handful of FIM students, a sunny Saturday afternoon turned out to be the "Wunder von FIM".

For a less biased view on the tournament, here is how a FIM Alumni wrapped up the day's events:

"On October 25th, the first fim Alumni e.V. Cup took place at the SoccaFive arena in Munich. The classes of 2007 and 2008, the fim Alumni, and the department of financial management and capital markets participated in the tournament. Although the team of the department of financial management and capital markets gained first position in the standings after the preliminaries, the team lost clearly in the final against the class of 2007 which delivered an outstanding play. Congratulations to the class of 2007!"

