I’m not too sure it’s working

By Colin Emch-Wei

A&E EDITOR

I’ve been rocked. I admit that freely. My base notions of comprehension and linguistic ability have been debase to the point that I’m now completely and utterly confused, and now I reach forth into the great academic expanse of Illinois Tech for some much needed clarification and venting. Just over a week ago, the new IIT branding campaign was brought forth into fruition, and we’ve yet to see the end of it. While at first I thought it was clever and cute, (who in the world doesn’t like “Creativity?”), I’m now beginning to tire of it. Perhaps it’s the constant linguistic assault of words I love being chopped up and rendered illegible (my mind stutters to a grinding, ugly halt whenever I see one of those damn shirts). Maybe it’s just that I have no true school spirit (and have a difficult time seeing it in other people), and I have a very difficult time getting excited about anything happening on or to this campus. In all honesty, I think my problem is a much deeper one than that.

First, there’s something I really should say. I admire and respect those involved in this branding campaign, because I think they’ve taken on a daunting task – making this campus look like a great place to come and study. They’ve done it with vigor and determination, two values that seem to be somewhat missing here at Illinois Tech. With that out of the way, here we go. My biggest problem with the branding campaign is that no matter how you decide to label a product, whatever marketing strategies you may use, nothing can change the fact that the product must be different for consumers to want it. Rebranding an old product to label a product, whatever marketing strategies you may with the branding campaign is that no matter how you decide to label a product, whatever marketing strategies you may use, nothing can change the fact that the product must be different for consumers to want it. Rebranding an old product, whatever marketing strategies you may use, nothing can change the fact that the product must become different for consumers to want it. The new product is just a rebranding of the old product with a new name.

Next, I think we need to be damn proud of our school. We need to be happy here. We need to be satisfied not just with the level of our education, but the quality of life on campus. We need to be comfortable enough here to eat out, to ignite within us some fire that will drive us to be the incredibly creative and brilliant students that we’re expected to be. We need to be free to pursue the exchange of new and radical ideas that make a college experience what it’s supposed to be. We can’t feel like we’re missing out on something just because we go to Illinois Tech. Simply said, we need to be more than satisfied with where we are; we need to be ecstatic and in love with the school we attend, because that’s when we’ll be proud enough to do something unique and special.

I saw two students last week who were wearing shirts that had “IIT” in bold red inserted into an expletive (you’ll figure it out quickly enough) that described the way they feel about the school. I imagine that many other students, particularly the upper-level students or ones that have been around here long enough feel a similar emotion. If anybody needed an indicator of the level of dissatisfaction with the school, you have it right there.

While I understand the school’s extremely pressing need to change the way the world sees us, I think it might be more important to change the way that we view ourselves, the way that things actually are, and the way that things should be. I sincerely hope that the new branding campaign is a sort of impetus for this kind of drastic change, and not just a gimmick subsisting on free t-shirts, vinyl banners, and gift card raffles. It’s an interesting and daunting challenge, and I welcome these brave souls in their new undertaking. I worry for them, however, if the campus mentality doesn’t shift quickly enough, they might just bite the dust like every other good-intentioned idea has. Good luck.
Why I go to IIT: looking back on the decision

By Caitlin Hubbard

Every once in awhile it’s healthy to look back and try to figure why the heck you do what you do. Maybe it’s that as a young adult I’m constantly fed the generalization that I act on impulse, without thought or reason, and with a certain sense of indestructibility. No matter how true that may be, I feel a nearly subconscious need to rebel against this stigma. To prove to myself that through this mess of teenage hormones, major life changes, and the voice of pop culture telling me to live for the moment there runs a slight thread of logic, a place of calm amidst the storm, a reason behind the why. Then perhaps this sudden venture into the vast labyrinth of introspection is because my parental authorities spent most of spring break trying to convince me to transfer out of IIT. Their reasons were numerous, varied, and very well thought out. They ranged from, “you could go to the college that your dad teaches at, the tuition will be free and you will get to see your family more than once every two months” to “If you go to a school close to where my family lives you can have the biggest garden you want and you can be a jock, the popular quarterback, and blahblahblah. And he thought “Oh! I know, I will use this word to swear at people now!” And then from on, as it happens, the word [hastily] caught on! How do swear words catch on? Maybe I should ask, why do swear words catch on? Why? Why would anyone in their right mind use swear words? They can’t be that frustrated, can they? Are they really at the edge of reason? Or are they going with the flow? Or are they just trying to blend in? I am currently taking the Abnormal Psychology our wonderful Institute of Psychology at IIT offers. And one of the things that is important to this class, is statistics. How many people in a 100 does it take to consider something abnormal? So this kinda gets us back to the F-word usage. If a small percentage is using it, those people are called abnormal because of the prevalence rates. To some extent, they are labeled abnormal by the society. Then, if society decides one fine day, that it wants to use the F-word because it is being labeled cool (by some low IQ jock), what do you call that? Of course, the numbers go up now. A bigger number of the populace starts using the word, just because they are being labeled cool. Also, they do it to be accepted. You wouldn’t have believed it 10 years ago if you read this. But that’s what is happening. The things people do to be accepted range from eccentric to outright outrageous.

Now, personally, I think people do use the F-word primarily for this purpose, to be accepted. Some people are really good with self control; these people will never lose their cool and use the F-word. I know there are some people like this. And I have seen over my time here, some people with good personality traits, behave out of their character and use the F-word. Some people, just to be accepted and some people to be in the same league as other; the cool league. For those people I quote an old adage; “Only dead fish swim with the flow.”

Anyways, my point of writing all this is because recently I have been to a respected bookstore, Barnes and Noble. What did I find? A photography book named “F*%k” [sic] the Heroes. That is just unacceptable! It is a book store. Anyone can walk in. Children, minors, etc. You might say “Oh, they will learn eventually, won’t what comes next?” For that I would reply “Are you outta your mind?” Seriously. Just because you think it is cool doesn’t mean other people do. And just because a majority thinks it is cool, doesn’t mean it is right. To give you an example, the Milgram Experiment. Stanford scientists proved that normal people could do harm to other people because of Pressure from an authority figure. No detail about the experiment here, but the point of the experiment was people and especially students are subject to peer pressure. And those who can resist it are the ones who come out to be better than others.

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Half of college students overconsuming booze, drugs

By Marielle Segarre

(BROWN DAILY HERALD/BROWN UNIVERSITY)

(U-WIRE) PROVIDENCE, R.I. -- About half of full-time college students abuse drugs and alcohol, according to a March 15 report from Columbia University's National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse.

The study, titled “Wasting the Best and Brightest,” which polled 2,040 students and 400 administrators between 1993 and 2005, found that 49 percent of full-time college students -- nearly 3.8 million students -- binge drink and abuse drugs. About 23 percent -- or 1.8 million -- meet the medical criteria for substance abuse and dependence, almost triple the proportion in the general population.

“It’s time to take the high out of higher education,” Joseph Califano, the center’s chair and a former U.S. secretary of health, education and welfare, said in a statement.

The study found that, since 1993, binge drinking has increased 16 percent and the number of students drinking to get drunk has risen 23 percent. It also said the number of students who drink 10 times or more in a month has increased 25 percent.

At Brown, some students said the drinking problem is partly due to the country’s legal drinking age of 21.

Corrie Tan ’10, a self-described “social drinker,” said the legal drinking age in her home country, Singapore, is 18 -- and students abuse alcohol less there because it is more prevalent.

“Underage drinking is not an issue” in Singapore, Tan said.

Tan said students in the United States often drink to get drunk, but young adults in Singapore drink for the taste or for the “warm, fuzzy, high,” while not going over their limits.

“The drinking age being 21 encourages binge drinking,” Meaghan Caufield ’10 said. “The thrill comes from the illegality of it.”

The culture was completely different when Caufield visited Europe, she said. In Spain, she could just “sit around and have a beer” with a group of people without getting drunk.

“Americans, by making the drinking age 21, put this forbidden stigma on it. It’s not that way in Europe,” Caufield said.

“I think some students drink as a reaction to the drinking age,” said Kristina Jackson, assistant professor of community health at the Brown’s Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies. Because alcohol is more difficult to obtain for those under 21, underage drinkers consume alcohol less frequently but more heavily than those over 21, she said.

Universities sometimes create programs for incoming students to stress the dangers of drugs and alcohol, she said, but most of the prevention comes in “restricting access and cracking down on bars that have cheap drinks.”

In his statement, Califano blamed college administrators for facilitating alcohol abuse. “College presidents, deans and trustees have facilitated a college culture of alcohol and drug abuse that is linked to poor student academic performance, depression, anxiety, suicide, property damage, vandalism, fights and a host of medical problems,” he said.

“By failing to become part of the solution, these Pontius Pilate presidents and parents, deans, trustees and alumni have become part of the problem,” Califano said.

Caulfield said she thinks drinking is a big part of Brown’s culture, mostly because of the large size of its campus. Caufield was surprised at the lack of alcohol on campus when she visited her sister at Skidmore College, but she said that the scarcity was due mainly to the school’s small campus and students’ inability to use fake IDs in the area, where students face the harsh penalties for being caught.

“Alcohol certainly has made a leap,” said Andre Burnier ’10. “There is definitely a difference between now and previous generations -- we consume it for the ends and not for the taste.”

Burnier said alcohol has become his generation’s “drug of choice,” compared to the prevalent use of marijuana in the 1960s. Also, he said, it is a “way of breaking the law,” though he said it is easy to gain access to alcohol -- much more so than when he was in high school.

Along with the increase in alcohol abuse, the study said marijuana use has doubled since 1993 and other illegal drug use has increased 52 percent.

Use of prescription painkillers such as Percocet, Vicodin and OxyContin has increased by 343 percent, and use of tranquilizers like Xanax and Valium has gone up 450 percent, the study found.

And prescription stimulant abuse -- including use of Ritalin and Adderall -- has risen 91 percent, though one student thinks this figure could be misleading.

“You have to take into account the students that use Adderall to stay up late,” Burnier said. These students are not using the drug to get high, he said.

Burnier and Tan said they haven’t seen much drug use at Brown, though Caufield said she thinks the drug culture is just “not as visible” as the drinking culture.

Also, Caufield said, alcohol is mostly dangerous when students don’t know their limits, especially if they did not drink in high school.

Tan said she doesn’t think Brown’s drinking levels are “out of the ordinary,” because college is a “place where people experiment.”

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This event is only for IIT undergraduates
The results of the third annual IIT Student Technology Survey show a mixed response. In comparison to a year ago, students are more satisfied with some aspects of IIT technology and less satisfied with others. Just over 1,000 Main Campus and Stuart School of Business students took the 2007 survey, which is a 20% response rate. This response was lower than in previous years, but still a relevant reflection of what students think of technology at IIT.

The service students are most satisfied with is Blackboard. 81% of students are satisfied with the Blackboard system and 80% would like more courses to utilize Blackboard.

The service students are most dissatisfied with is residence hall telephone service, only 30% of students are satisfied with the telephone in their residence. At the same time, 86% of students report using cellular phones to make off campus calls and 70% use cellular phones to make on-campus calls.

The level of satisfaction with OTS computer labs is somewhat mixed, students are happier with the number of computers and lab hours, but slight less satisfied with the lab software and quality of printing.

The need for more wireless coverage is evident again this year. Over 80% of students report that they connect to the IIT network wirelessly and 46% are satisfied with the wireless coverage on Main Campus. Overall satisfaction with wireless has improved from last year when only 31% of students believed there was sufficient coverage on Main Campus. OTS plans to expand wireless coverage by installing wireless access points in all Main Campus academic buildings over the summer.

The survey also evaluated student interest in some potential new services, we found that 58% of students would like to use a handheld device to view or listen to podcasts of class lectures, special IIT events and news items. In addition, 68% would rather access OTS computer lab software from their personal computer than go to the lab to use the software and equipment.

Student reaction to myIIT is mixed as well, 57% of students agree that the portal has improved access to information systems and university web content. However, this response doesn’t seem to match portal usage: 84% of students use myIIT to check email, 79% access Web for Students through the portal, and 83% use the portal to go to Blackboard. The single sign-on feature of myIIT has improved student opinion of the number of IIT account usernames and passwords they have to manage – 62% agreed that their usernames and passwords were manageable, compared to only 57% last year.

Special thanks to Keren Florence, Manager of Communications & Research in the Office of Technology Services for compiling and analyzing the results of the survey.
**IT Campus News Briefs**

IIT's Chief Communications Officer, was...
GREEK WEEK

TECHNEWS TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2007

A Celebration of Siblinghood

Text by Sarah Stone
PHOTO EDITOR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SARAH BOWES

The intent of the week of Greek games, known as Greek Week, is to foster a sense of community, togetherness, and competition between the Greek organizations on campus. Each of the nine chapters participating in the games draw together teams of members to compete in events such as skit, bat spin, egg toss, and leg tunnel. The events take place during the afternoon and evening, both on the Quad and other places around campus. Events, such as can castle, help the philanthropic causes of the chapters by collecting can goods for Chicago Food Depository. Overall, Greek Week turned out fantastically for all chapters involved this year. Each chapter had its strong events and added to the overall strengthening of relationships between the chapters.

The week started out with the skits. Many chapters utilized this event to showcase their theme and use their members in creative ways. Kappa Phi Delta innovatively showcased Rocky Horror Picture Show, while Sigma Phi Epsilon reenacted Revenge of the Nerds. Alpha Sigma Alpha used their theme of I love the 90s to act out multiple different television shows from the era. The overall winner of the skit was Triangle fraternity, with a skit about being at a state school. Along with banner judging, Greek Week began on an exciting foot.

Day two brought out bat spin and chug, two events that can sometimes cause nauseating consequences. Phi Kappa Sigma had a great showing in these events, placing first in both. Day three originally involved two different forms of egg toss, but was postponed due to a lack of eggs. Day four brought out the strongest members of the chapters in a competition of tug of war. Sigma Phi Epsilon placed first in this event and Triangle placed second. Kappa Phi Delta sorority also had a strong showing, tying for fifth place with Phi Kappa Sigma. Bringing an end to the weekend on day five, the cart race occurred on Sunday. Sigma Phi Epsilon also placed first in this event, followed closely in second by Alpha Sigma Alpha. Kappa Phi Delta added excitement by competing with a cart found in the HUB and gave the other chapters a run for their money. Egg Toss also took place on this day, where both Phi Kappa Sigma and Sigma Phi Epsilon had strong showings.

Day six brought a new week and new events. Surf and can castle lead to a burst of whirlwind eating and creativity in the chapters, by showcasing those who could eat the fastest and build an amazing castle out of cans. Day seven caused a lot of painful legs with the events of leg tunnel and 8-man. The top five places were very close in time for the leg tunnel event, with Sigma Phi Epsilon ultimately winning. Unfortunately, due to legal complications 8-man was cancelled, much to the dismay of the participants. This only fueled the competition more coming into the final day…the dance-off.

The dance-off originally began with the 2005 Greek Week as a mystery event. However, it was brought back this year as a dignified Greek Week event due to popular demand. Each chapter showed off its dancing skills in this event, while being judged on creativity, difficulty, and togetherness. After all chapters had danced the first round, it came down to Alpha Sigma Alpha and Sigma Phi Epsilon in the final dance-off. Ultimately, Alpha Sigma Alpha went with an amazing dance to Justin Timberlake’s My Love. Afterwards the Greek Week trophy was presented to the overall winner of Greek Week, Sigma Phi Epsilon. Greek Week ended with excellent community, togetherness, and competition between the chapters. It brought the sororities and fraternities closer together and helped promote the values of each organization. If next year’s festivities are anything like this year, they should be more exciting than ever.

Event 1: Skit
Objective: Each chapter was to introduce there greek week theme in the form of a skit. Each skit lasted 5-20 minutes and took place on the quad.

Places: 1st Triangle
2nd Sigma Phi Epsilon
3rd Alpha Sigma Alpha
4th Kappa Phi Delta
5th Zeta Pi Omega
6th Pi Kappa Phi
6th Pi Kappa Sigma
8th Delta Tau Delta

Event 2: Banner
Objective: Each chapter was to introduce there greek week theme in the form of a banner. Each banner was kept outside the chapter house for the remainder of the week.

Places: 1st Phi Kappa Sigma
2nd Alpha Sigma Alpha
3rd Pi Kappa Phi
4th Kappa Phi Delta
5th Sigma Phi Epsilon
6th Triangle
7th Zeta Pi Omega

Event 3: Batspin
Objective: Five members of the chapter spun ten times with a bat to their foreheads. Then they ran to their corresponding cone on the opposite side, then rolled back to the start.

Places: 1st Phi Kappa Sigma
2nd Sigma Phi Epsilon
3rd Alpha Sigma Alpha
4th Triangle
5th Zeta Pi Omega
6th Pi Kappa Phi

Event 4: Chug Challenge
Objective: Each team consisted of five members. The first member had to completely chug 24oz. of their given beverage before the next member could begin. The chapter to complete the challenge the quickest is the winner.

Places: 1st Phi Kappa Sigma
2nd Triangle
3rd Sigma Phi Epsilon
4th Kappa Phi Delta
5th Alpha Sigma Alpha
6th Pi Kappa Phi
7th Zeta Pi Omega

Event 5: Tug
Objective: Each chapter was allowed eight tug members. Each person started in a push-up position. The team that pulled the other team across the center line won.

Places: 1st Sigma Phi Epsilon
2nd Triangle
4th Pi Kappa Phi
5th Kappa Phi Delta
5th Phi Kappa Sigma
7th Zeta Pi Omega
8th Alpha Sigma Alpha
8th Delta Tau Delta

Photos of Tug were taken by E-Fann Saung
**Greek Week**

**Event 1: Skit**

**Objective:** Each chapter was to present a skit to act out multiple different television shows or movies. Alpha Sigma Alpha won with an amazing performance of Rocky Horror Picture Show, while Sigma Phi Epsilon reenacted Revenge of the Nerds. Alpha Sigma Delta innovatively showcased the Rocky Horror Picture Show for their movie theme and used their members in creative ways.

**Places:** 1st Alpha Sigma Alpha
2nd Sigma Phi Epsilon
3rd Alpha Sigma Delta

**Event 2: Banner**

**Objective:** Each chapter was given two hours to complete a banner. The banners were judged on aesthetic appeal, stability, and themes. Kappa Phi Delta presented to the overall winner of Greek Week, Kappa Phi Delta added to the overall strengthening of the chapters by collecting can goods for the food pantry.

**Places:** 1st Kappa Phi Delta
2nd Pi Kappa Sigma
3rd Alpha Sigma Alpha

**Event 3: Batspin**

**Objective:** Each chapter was to spin their chapter ten times with a bat to complete a course in the quickest amount of time. Each cart had to consist of four wheels and two axials.

**Places:** 1st Sigma Phi Epsilon
2nd Alpha Sigma Alpha
3rd Triangle
4th Pi Kappa Sigma
5th Kappa Phi Delta
6th Pi Kappa Phi

**Event 4: Chug Challenge**

**Objective:** Each chapter was allowed to begin. The chapter to complete the chug received 1 point. The chapter to completely chug 24oz. of their given beverage received 2 points. The chapter to finish last received 0 points. The winner was the chapter that was farthest away from the finish line at the end of the allotted time.

**Places:** 1st Pi Kappa Sigma
2nd Triangle
3rd Alpha Sigma Alpha
4th Pi Kappa Phi
5th Alpha Sigma Alpha
6th Kappa Phi Delta

**Event 5: Long Toss**

**Objective:** Each team consisted of two people, one tosser and one catcher. Each team was given 2.5 plus minutes to make five tosses. Alpha Sigma Alpha won with an amazing performance.

**Places:** 1st Alpha Sigma Alpha
2nd Pi Kappa Phi
3rd Phi Kappa Sigma
4th Sigma Phi Epsilon
5th Alpha Sigma Delta
6th Delta Tau Delta

**Event 6: Cart Race**

**Objective:** Each chapter was to compete in events such as skit, bat spin, egg toss, chug challenge, and banner. The cart race occurred on the quad. The cart race was postponed due to complications, but it was brought back this year as a dignified Greek Week event due to popular demand.

**Places:** 1st Phi Kappa Sigma
2nd Triangle
3rd Sigma Phi Epsilon
4th Pi Kappa Phi
5th Alpha Sigma Alpha
6th Kappa Phi Delta
8th Delta Tau Delta

**Event 7: Egg Toss Part 1**

**Objective:** Each chapter was given 33 points to plan and build a castle out of canned foods. The castle was judged on aesthetic appeal, stability, and themes.

**Places:** 1st Sigma Phi Epsilon
2nd Alpha Sigma Alpha
4th Alpha Sigma Delta
5th Triangle
6th Zeta Pi Omega

**Event 7: Egg Toss Part 2**

**Objective:** Each chapter was allowed to use 8-man, leg tunnel, and Snarf. Each chapter was given 8-man, leg tunnel, and Snarf. The winner was the chapter that was farthest away from the other team across the center line. The winner was the chapter that was farthest away from the other team across the center line. The winner was the chapter that was farthest away from the other team across the center line. The winner was the chapter that was farthest away from the other team across the center line.

**Places:** 1st Alpha Sigma Alpha
2nd Sigma Phi Epsilon
3rd Pi Kappa Sigma
4th Pi Kappa Phi
5th Alpha Sigma Alpha
6th Delta Tau Delta

**Event 8: Egg Toss Part 2**

**Objective:** Each chapter was allowed to use 8-man, leg tunnel, and Snarf. Each chapter was given 8-man, leg tunnel, and Snarf. The winner was the chapter that was farthest away from the other team across the center line.

**Places:** 1st Alpha Sigma Alpha
2nd Sigma Phi Epsilon
3rd Pi Kappa Sigma
4th Pi Kappa Phi
5th Alpha Sigma Alpha
6th Delta Tau Delta

**Event 9: Snarf**

**Objective:** Each team member, of five, ran the width of the quad and snarf five sliders, and then return to tag the next member. The winning team won.

**Places:** 1st Phi Kappa Sigma
2nd Sigma Phi Epsilon
3rd Kappa Phi Delta
4th Alpha Sigma Delta
5th Triangle
6th Zeta Pi Omega

**Event 10: Can Castle**

**Objective:** Each chapter was to build an amazing castle out of canned foods. The castle was judged on aesthetic appeal, stability, and themes.

**Places:** 1st Sigma Phi Epsilon
2nd Pi Kappa Sigma
3rd Kappa Phi Delta
4th Alpha Sigma Delta
5th Triangle
6th Zeta Pi Omega

**Event 11: Leg Tunnel**

**Objective:** Each chapter was to compete in events such as skit, bat spin, egg toss, chug challenge, and banner. The cart race occurred on the quad. The cart race was postponed due to complications, but it was brought back this year as a dignified Greek Week event due to popular demand.

**Places:** 1st Sigma Phi Epsilon
2nd Alpha Sigma Alpha
4th Pi Kappa Sigma
5th Alpha Sigma Alpha
6th Delta Tau Delta
7th Delta Tau Delta

**Event 12: Dance**

**Objective:** Each chapter was given 4-7 minutes to perform a routine. Chapters were judged on organization, technical ability, and creativity.

**Places:** 1st Alpha Sigma Alpha
2nd Sigma Phi Epsilon
3rd Pi Kappa Phi
4th Kappa Phi Delta
5th Triangle
6th Zeta Pi Omega
7th Delta Tau Delta

**Event 13: Greek Council**

**Objective:** Each chapter presented a skit to act out multiple television shows or movies. Alpha Sigma Alpha won with an amazing performance of Rocky Horror Picture Show, while Sigma Phi Epsilon reenacted Revenge of the Nerds. Alpha Sigma Delta innovatively showcased the Rocky Horror Picture Show for their movie theme and used their members in creative ways.

**Places:** Sigma Phi Epsilon
2nd Alpha Sigma Alpha
3rd Pi Kappa Sigma
5th Kappa Phi Delta
6th Zeta Pi Omega
8th Pi Kappa Phi
On the Cheap: El Presidente Restaurante

By Colin Emch-Wei

A & E EDITOR

Recent work-related circumstances have put me in a bilingual environment, a place that I don’t actually mind all too much. I’ve been hearing Spanish a lot as of late, and the sudden influx of the official language of Mexico has recently left me wanting some sort of Mexican cuisine.

My fix came in the form of El Presidente Restaurant, a family owned restaurant on the North side. It’s an establishment that has widespread roots in the community, and is very proud of it. El Presidente claims to serve authentic, delicious Mexican food at an affordable price. I had heard some good things about it, so I decided to make a trip up there.

Firstly, some quick notes about El Presidente. The restaurant is a casual dining experience, with a BYOB clause that can be pretty tempting. El Presidente is also open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so it’s perfect for a late night showdown.

Upon entering, we were immediately greeted by a server who verbally explained. Overall, it’s a film worth seeing and I assure you that you won’t be disappointed.

A year after the tragic death of his father, Kale (Shia LaBeouf) withdraws from everyone; in particular, the new girl next door, Ashley (Sarah Roemer) and Mr. Turner (David Morse) who Kale thinks may be a serial killer. His desire to uncover the truth about Mr. Turner leads him, his best friend Ronnie (Aaron Yoo) and Ashley down a dangerous path of unexpected twists and turns. Are Kale’s suspicions real or just a figment of his imagination?

Directed by D.J. Caruso, “Disturbia” is a young, hip, modern day version of the Alfred Hitchcock’s “Rear Window” that is both intriguing and suspensful. The film starts out very low key with scenes of Kale and his father fishing at a river which leads into one of the most gut-retching car crashes I have ever seen in a movie. That one scene alone lets you know that this isn’t going to be your standard run-of-the-mill teen thriller.

LaBeouf, who is best known as Louis Stevens on the Disney’s Channel’s “Even Stevens,” gives a solid performance. LaBeouf has two other films, “Transformers” and “Surf’s Up,” set to premiere in the next couple of months and will host “Saturday Night Live” on April 14. Newcomers Sarah Roemer and Aaron Yoo are perfect in their respective roles as leading lady love interest and comedic sidekick. Morse is good as usual despite having minimal screen time and Morse, one of the best character actors in Hollywood, is great as the quiet, unassuming next door neighbor.

While there are a few slow stretches in the movie, “Disturbia” is a pretty good film. I was surprised by several scenes and I appreciated the director’s efforts to visually reveal the dark, twisted secrets of the serial killer instead of having them verbally explained. Overall, it’s a film worth seeing and I assure you that you won’t be disappointed.

Things are not what they seem in “Disturbia”
**Volume #5, Issue #8, 4/8/1930, Page 1: Lost Articles in Dean’s Office**

“The Lost Articles,” as they became known colloquially, were actually never written. Facing a deadline with nothing written, several editors banded together and claimed that their articles, for being critical of the school’s policies, had been stolen overnight. What ensued was a campus-political thriller of intrigue, lies, and... mostly lies. It was a cheap lie, the Dean retired anyway at the end of the year. Didn’t amount to much, other than a few thrilling works of fiction.

**Volume #31, Issue #8, 4/6/1943, Page 3: Swanson Experimenting With A Constant Temperature Drier**

Not so far south of IIT a University named after a small portion of Illinois that didn’t even have the word “Technology” in its name was doing some groundbreaking research that would eventually lead to the Atomic Bomb. IIT, not to be outdone, began work on the Constant Temperature Drier. The technology eventually developed is now used to dry clothing to exactly room temperature, so that they feel as if you had just put them on. More recent manufacturers have set the default temperature up to at least 90 degrees, to invoke a warm, comforting feeling from clothes fresh from the drier, thereby making the research extraneous. Fermi wins again.

**Volume #47, Issue #8, 4/7/1948, Page 4: Theta Xi Drags Out Bubble Gum And Knickers For ‘Juvenile Jump’**

Theta Xi was the first prescient greek house on campus. While other greek houses to this day have at least eight “retro” themed parties per year, Theta Xi had “pretro” parties in which they celebrated trends that would be popular years from the date of said parties. The Alpha Gamma chapter, here at IIT, wasn’t too good at the prescience thing, so the party included the bubble gum popping ways of the 50s, the sexual liberation of the 60s, and rap songs from opposite ends of the 1990s - Kriss Kross’s “Jump” and Juvenile’s “Back That Thang Up.” Their next party celebrated Andy Kaufman’s cancer-ridden career by moving the space in the fraternity’s name over two letters so that it read “The taXi.”

**Volume #69, Issue #22, 4/7/1961, Page 1: IIT To Hold Dance in Taj Mahal; Carrion to Provide Rock, Roll**

This was in the annual April Fools issue on campus. It was pretty funny. It said that they were going to tear down the Taj Mahal, rebuild it in a parking lot at 34th and Wabash, and hold a dance there. It then described the Taj Mahal as a project designed by architect Moose von Rodent that was constructed entirely out of dominoes, and that entertainment would be provided by the Philharmonia Orchestra under the direction of Herbert von Carrion as well as the soloist Miss Candi Barr. Seriously, can’t make this stuff up.

**Volume #106, Issue #7, 4/9/1979 Page 3: It’s That Time Of Year**

It is Flag Burning Day.

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**This Day in TechNews History...**

Volume #5, Issue #8, 4/8/1930, Page 1: Last Articles in Dean’s Office

“"The Lost Articles," as they became known colloquially, were actually never written. Facing a deadline with nothing written, several editors banded together and claimed that their articles, for being critical of the school’s policies, had been stolen overnight. What ensued was a campus-political thriller of intrigue, lies, and... mostly lies. It was a cheap lie, the Dean retired anyway at the end of the year. Didn’t amount to much, other than a few thrilling works of fiction.

Volume #31, Issue #8, 4/6/1943, Page 3: Swanson Experimenting With A Constant Temperature Drier

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**Across**

1. Membership fees (4)
2. Difficult (4)
3. Unfavorable opinion (11)
4. Cruel (6)
5. Eight pints (6)
6. Prison room (4)
7. Unable to speak (4)
8. Small ocean (3)
9. Aries zodiac symbol (3)
10. Attempt (3)
11. Film, In...Shoes (3)
12. Price label (3)
13. Hopping insect (4)
14. Membership fees (4)
15. Difficult (4)
16. Unfavorable opinion (11)
17. Cruel (6)
18. Eight pints (6)
19. Prison room (4)
20. Unable to speak (4)
21. Small ocean (3)
22. Aries zodiac symbol (3)
23. Hopping insect (4)
24. Membership fees (4)
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89. Prison room (4)
90. Unable to speak (4)
91. Small ocean (3)
92. Aries zodiac symbol (3)
93. Hopping insect (4)
Sudoku

2 7 5 8
1 2 4 7
9 5 3 1
2 3 9 5
4 1 8 9
4 9 1 2
7 5 3 4

An Angry Letter

Dear Sid Meier,

I have been playing your most recent release, “Sid Meier’s Civilization IV,” quite a bit recently. At first I had a good deal of fun playing the game. I usually played as the Americans — I mean, come on, obviously. I enjoy racing to build wonders of the world, bombarding my enemies from the skies, and influencing other civilizations to join me in holy wars. It was fun, at first. But gradually, the more I played, the more infuriated I was with you. Let me explain.

First off, what’s with Gandhi? He’s always so angry at me! Me! Franklin D. Roosevelt! I thought Gandhi was never allowed to be angry at anyone. It’s really weird seeing him snarl all the time. And I also don’t think he was ever King of India. I know he’s on their rupee-dollars, but that’s like making the American leader Eugene V. Debs. Look, I dug what he stood for, but he never made it to President. Every time he threatens me I feel subconsciously annoyed. “Yeah, you and what Army?” And then he has an army. It’s really stupid.

And while we’re talking about leaders, you made a bunch of weird choices. You did Lincoln a few times in the past, and now we have a choice between Washington and Roosevelt. That’s fine, I understand Lincoln-fatigue. A lot of good picks, across the board. Infotext you picked Mao Zedong for China and Genghis and Kublai Khan for Mongolia. Nasty guys, right? Killed a lot of people! Giving people the chance to play the villain? Why do you consistently deny Stalin a place in the Civilization Halls of Glory? Catherine and Peter. Yeah, real great leaders they were. Really turned Russia into a super power, started with the Nuclear Missiles and absorbed most of Eastern Europe for itself. You don’t have to do Hitler or anything, no big deal. At least Lenin.

Thirdly, on this religion thing. I know you wanted to make it fair, all religions are the same, anyone can get anything, but it’s more than a little funny when the Jewish holy city is Boston.

Next — nevermind the overall ridiculousness of your tech tree — I mean, I can only assume Printshop, Pottery, and Animal Husbandry merge together like the Megazord, the White Tigerzord, and Tor the Shuttlezord to create the Thunder Ultrazord that is “Writing.” Here’s what’s confusing me — how do you learn to write and then learn about the alphabet? I hate to break it to you, Sid, but writing without an alphabet? That’s drawing pictures. And I’ve never been able to draw pictures and call it a philosophy essay.

Finally, OK, I’m a big fan of infrastructure. I think deep down, we all are. In Civilization III, I was always first in line to the Hoover Dam. But you replaced it with... Three Gorges? It’s not even operational yet! Does Hoover really deserve to be shafted by history more than he already has? I know that the USA is already represented by the Statue of Liberty, the Pentagon, the United Nations, Hollywood, “Rock and Roll,” Broadway, Mt. Rushmore, Wall Street and West Point, but one more wouldn’t hurt. Do it for Herbert.

I know it’s a game and all, and certain liberties must be sacrificed so that there can be some modicum of balance. You don’t have to tell me that Versailles doesn’t actually make things cheaper to maintain in nearby cities. But seriously, this is embarrassing.

See you for Civ 5.

Sincerely,
Joe Kaiser

Terrible Pick-up Lines for Communications Majors

By Joe Kaiser

“Baby, I’m an open communicator. I love feedback, and I seek excessive dis-clothing”

“Everything you’ve read about me on the internet is true, despite the often questionable veracity of the world wide web.”

“I practiced these lines in a mirror several times to make myself look more confident than I am in because I don’t know which of the four sub-groups of potential presentation audiences you will fall into. Do you think I’m confident? How about sexy?”

“As you can see on this chart, your quality of life virtually quintuples after you and I hook up. On this next slide is some illustrative clip-art which reinforces that we should sleep together.”

“I can tell that you’re relatively satisfied your Physiological and Safety needs on Maslow’s hierarchy. Let’s say we improve your sense of Love/Belonging so I can self-actualize you. Myself.”

“Don’t worry if you have communicator anxiety, baby. I’ve got plenty of visual aids back at my apartment that you can keep your hands busy with so as to keep from fidgeting.”

“How about you come to my place for a little job interview for you to be my woman. And then, after we’re done, I’ll send a thank you note or card.”

“Let’s go over the guidelines for sexual harassment in detail. That is maybe sexy.”
**What’s hot, what’s not**

By Stephanie Herrera

**Hot: Nike+**

The Nike+ is my new found running buddy. This guy, or girl which ever voice you choose, is the ultimate portable treadmill. This device consists of two pieces; one is a small oval shaped chip that slips into the side of your Nike+ shoe underneath the insole. The other piece plugs right into the bottom of your iPod. As soon as you turn on your iPod “Nike+iPod” shows up in your main menu. After you enter your weight it monitors your calorie burn, distance, time and work out history. You can set your workouts to a specific calorie burn or distance or time. While your running there is an option for spoken feedback, this is where the male or female option comes in. You have the option for it to tell you the status of your run on a mile to mile basis or a minute to minute basis. For those of us who get bored while running there is a PowerSong option, with the press of a button your favorite pump song will play immediately, so you can get back in the mood. There’s even a competitive game that can be played with yourself or another person. You can set a goal in a certain amount of time to be attained and the device will help you attain that goal, or you can compete with another person, who can get attain the goal first. So if you’re looking to burn off that winter fat and start shedding some clothes for the summer count on Nike+ to get you into shape.

**Not: Treadmill**

The thing I hate the most about running on a treadmill is that fact that the time, distance and calories that you have barely burned are sitting right in front of your face. So, you’re forced to throw a magazine over those flashing red numbers, put on some head phones and watch the television right in front of you. Anything you can just to keep your eyes from staring at the time that is passing by so slowly. Not to mention the pounding of your feet on the thin plastic making you sound like a galloping horse, you might as well encase yourself in a plastic ball and run around on the baseball field. The treadmill always makes you feel like you’re running well, when in reality, if you were to run outside at the pace you set for yourself on the treadmill, you’d be down and out in 10 minutes. There is something much different than jumping up and down while the ground moves beneath you and actually pushing your body weight in a forward direction.

**Faces around**

By Stephanie Herrera

**<Name>** Jos Caswey  
**<Major>** Architecture  
**<Year>** 4th year  
**<Height>** 5’2”  
**<Hometown>** Anchorage, Alaska  
**<High School>** Robert Service High School  
**<Birthday>** May 5th, 1985  
**<Hobbies>** Art, interior design, hiking, camping, shopping and hanging out with friends  
**<Favorite T.V. show(s)>** Grey’s Anatomy, Friends and Sex in the City on DVD  
**<Favorite book(s)>** The Glass Castle, Jeannette Walls  
Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver  
Memoir of a Geisha, Arthur Golden  
Air Frame, Michael Crichton  
Anything by Dan Brown  
**<How often do you work out (schedule)>** 3-4 times a week in the morning  
**<What do you do when you work out>**  
I usually do the elliptical, treadmill and weights.  
**<If you listen to music when you work out what do you listen to?>**  
The Academy Is...  
Fall Out Boy  
**<Are you apart of any clubs or organizations>** AIAS and 33rd productions  
**<Do you like to play or watch any sports>** I used to play soccer and I like to watch hockey.  
**<Are you apart of any clubs or organizations>** Answer to last week’s question: Kobe Bryant

If you would like to contribute to the Sports Section or would like to see something else in it Contact Stephanie herrste1@iit.edu