Interview with President John L. Anderson

By Rebekah Reid & Abhishhek Gunduguri

Q) What made you want to be president of IIT?

President Anderson: Well, when a university is searching for a president, a provost or a dean, the university hires a search firm, and they try to get people interested in the job. So when I was contacted by people from IIT, I thought about it. I saw a little bit about IIT because I'm a chemical engineer, and I've actually been here twice before to present seminars. I was not as interested at first because I had a good job (Proctor) at Case Western Reserve University. But then I started thinking of ideas about what a university should be, and you really have to be president to get your ideas employed.

I also realized that I'd been an undergraduate student, a graduate student, an assistant professor, an associate professor, a professor, a director, a department chairman, a dean, and a provost. The only academic position I had not held is that of president. To me, it's like hitting for the cycle in baseball. You have single, double, triple and home run. IIT is the home run for me. So I interviewed here, and I think I grew to appreciate what IIT has accomplished over the past decade. IIT has not always been in such good shape. Lew Collins did a fantastic job as president here, building the university back from the poor shape it was in during the early '90s. As I appreciated the remarkable gains that had occurred, I thought this would be a good place to continue the good work. Every president brings something different to the job. President Collins is from law school and his focus was on fundraising and building the infrastructure of the university. I think I did a magnificent job. I feel I can take IIT to the next step, building upon what he did. I see this as a great opportunity.

The other factor in my decision was that people are very positive here. I'm finding the students extremely positive; there are the usual complaints, but basically the attitude is pretty positive. The faculty and staff with whom I've worked are all very positive about the future of IIT. The Board of Trustees is also very supportive, which is really important to the success of the University.

I accepted this position the first week of May - and I've been happy about the decision ever since. My wife Pat and I are very positive about living in the city. We had visited Chicago many times before and always enjoyed the city. It's hard to believe that we are now living in it.

Q) What is your advice to students about living in the city of Chicago?

President Anderson: It's actually the advice I'm giving myself. Pat and I want to see Chicago, and one way to do this is by foot, by walking. I used to be a more avid runner, but as I've gotten older (and the knees don't hold up), I do less running and more walking. So every Sunday Pat and I plan to walk for an hour or a half, have lunch somewhere and see a different part of the city. I encourage students to use their CTA pass, take the subway to a new part of the city they want to explore, get out, and walk for an hour. You'll see wonderful architecture and other sights, and then you can come back and study (with a jovial grin). I recommend to the students that they set a goal of once a month seeing something special in Chicago, whether it's a ballpark, a museum or an interesting store. Force yourself to leave the campus and pretend you're a tourist. When you live in a place, you tend not to see things, because you say, "Oh I can do it next week" or "I can do it next month." You can go five years, or ten years in a place like Chicago and not see places like the Art Institute or the Museum of Science and Industry. So just pretend you’re a tourist, and decide you better go see the sights that interest you.

Q) IIT was ranked number seven under “campus is tiny, unsightly, or both” in the Princeton Review, how true do you believe this statement is, and what are your plans for improving IIT’s appearance?

President Anderson: I actually read the Princeton Review article. The question I’m asking you, as journalists, is how does the Princeton Review get its information? (Response) We believe that they perform student surveys.

President Anderson: How many students were surveyed?

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A year of action for SGA

By Abhishhek Gunduguri

In the past few years, all the Presidents in SGA have done their job dedicatedly, judicially, and with passion. Each of them had their own style of operations, organizing and outreach. If you had to find a common denominator for all of them, it would be the fact that they were all from Greek fraternity houses. They showed their interest in SGA as usual percentage of Greek students as well as residents as an equal percentage of their design materialize in the form of the Senate, which is now functional. What are SGA's future goals then? To find out, TechNews talked to the newly elected SGA President Brandon Lloyd.

Q) What was your reaction when you won the elections for the SGA President last semester?

Brandon Lloyd: Excitement. An opportunity to set up a foundation of interaction with the New President Anderson and the students. It is an honor to be entrusted with this position by my fellow students. I also believe that my previous campus involvement has prepared me for this responsibility.

Q) Did you know you were the first President, who is not a Greek house member, at IIT? What do you think of such a distinction?

Brandon Lloyd: It is a new version of the Senate, which is now functional. The competition includes an acceleration test, autocross, endurance event and static events. The teams are evaluated in the following categories: performance; high-power electronics; mechanical systems including suspension, steering, braking, chassis design, body design, and ergonomics; race strategy and management; computerized systems control and data acquisition; internal combustion engines (ICE) including intake and exhaust systems, fuel management, and ignition systems; regenerative braking systems; and project management.

IIT’s Formula Hybrid team wins its engines, vies for victory

By Abhishhek Gunduguri

Illinois Institute of Technology’s students are in for the ride of a lifetime as the race in the 2008 Formula Hybrid student automotive design competition. The Competition sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and organized by Dartmouth College challenges teams from around the world to build hybrid race cars to compete in several events and will be held for the second consecutive year from the 5th-7th May ‘08 at the New Hampshire International Speedway.

This competition is based on the Formula SAE program with one fundamental difference. The new competition encourages the development and innovation of hybrid automotive drive trains with added emphasis on efficiency in high-performance applications. The SAE competition provides the opportunity for undergraduate students to truly have an impact on the world of hybrids. It gives students the chance to not only design a best hybrid, but also to see their design materialize and compete against some of the best universities in the world.

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Freshmen’s guide to sanity at IIT

By Colin Emch-Wei

As much as I’d like to agree with the general concept that Tech is a place where fun & happiness (or the human spirit, take your pick as to which most closely you) come to wither and die, this might be the appropriate time to attempt to dispel certain notions and offer a path not necessarily to true contentment, but to make that time here a little more memorable.

1. Get the heck off campus. I can’t stress this enough. I spent the first four years of my time at Illinois Tech living on campus, and now that I’ve moved off I can only wish that I’d done it sooner. The issue that this fixex is the inevitable blurring of school and social life. In a place that is so work and technically driven, life eventually merges into an unhealthy mixture of all-nighters, projects, homework that’s late, and grade-driven drama. Much in the manner that this country has separated church and state, we should institute separation of school and life.

2. This may come as a no-brainer but get all of your tuition, parking permits, and student permit squared away this first week of classes. Failure to do so puts you at risk of being forced to pay on a daily basis. The acquisition of red tape that inhabits many parts of the administration (they’re getting better, though).

3. Make friends, lots and lots, and not just from your own major. I live with a CS major, and being an architecture student, many times a day I’ll come screaming to him for help (“Why doesn’t my internet work? Make it workkkkk...”), or simply to discuss the iPhone (GIMME). Surrounding yourself with people from various backgrounds expands your horizons. I’m currently working on a thesis that requires a different aspect of academia, and broadens your horizons. You come here to learn, right?

4. As weird as this sounds, the biggest problem most people have here is socializing. Keep yourself away from WoW and get out and around downtown will not only allow you to enjoy the new city, but to just be able to see this great city that we live in.

5. Change the same, go downtown as often as possible. I’ve been living here for five years and I can’t claim to have done even half the stuff that I should have. As a sidebar, skip the Sears Tower and go to the Hancock. The view’s a whole lot better, and there’s a Cheesecake Factory on the bottom floor.

6. Politic to anyone who works there. The staff is under a lot of pressure to meet our needs. In my experience, an overworked demenne will respond as much further than verbally reaming someone.

7. Architecture majors: SLEEP WHILE YOU STILL CAN.

No matter how hard your classes are, or how much you hate your professor, or how easy you think the class is, it’ll be all over a couple of months. You will get the unique luxury of a nap complete reset on a periodic basis, something that you will never, ever get in the working world.

Whatever anybody ever told you about college, they were wrong. Come here with no preconceived notions and you’ll be just fine, I promise. People aren’t animals, you can’t skip all your classes, and you actually need to do work.

Letter from the Editor

By Karina Powell

To those of you who are new to IIT, TechNews welcomes you to a great new stage in your academic career! To those returning students, welcome back for another great year.

Whether you’re new this year or a seasoned veteran, you’ve probably noticed that, in addition to some administrative changes like IIT’s new president, John Anderson, there is quite a bit of construction going on around campus. IIT is working hard to improve the campus and make it more functional, beautiful and modern. All of these new developments and improvements may be a small inconvenience now, but when it’s done, campus will be massively improved.

TechNews will be covering a lot of the improvements as they progress and develop the campus presentations. For those of you who are returning students, you may have already noticed some changes that took place over the summer. Take a look at these photos to detail some of the improvements that welcome us back.

In addition to all of the campus changes, TechNews will be undergoing some renovations of its own. Change is something that TechNews is prepared to embrace with open arms, and that’s fortunate since it’s coming anyway.

Moving from an office that was all our own to sharing an office with the largest organization on campus, SGA, was quite a leap, but we made it and we’re loving it. What better way for the two organizations to cooperate than to be forced to be in close quarters with one another for extended periods of time, right? We’re looking forward to the change that our two organizations are bringing and to bridging any communication gaps that may have existed in the past.

We are also excited to be developing a slew of new ideas, columns and designs...
The mysterious case of the burnt “Papad”

By Kaushik T. Ganesan

No, this isn’t any Sherlock Holmes mystery story, rather a first-hand account of a simple yet powerful instance to show how relativities exist in life. Before I proceed, let me first explain that “Papad” is a circular Indian food item akin to chips (although much bigger in size) that is used as a side-dish when the main course is rice. Occasionally, the “papad” could be fried in oil or not. But whatever the case, the papad is fried in oil till it acquires a golden color and a crispy texture. However, frying papad in oil entails heated oil for a time in one vessel – a tedious as well as time-consuming process. For the conscientious and impatient souls (I count among them), I belong to the latter, but from some feedback I get from back home after seeing my photos, it might not be long before I add myself to the former also, the microwave oven comes as a blessing in disguise as it helps make the papad sooner, as also eliminating the usage of oil. Today was a “typical” day, when I was rushing to class and hence, was in great haste. Having nothing to eat all day, I was feeling ravenous especially after tasting the good (surprisingly) Vegetable Fried rice that I had made, and I didn’t even spare a thought to check whether I had totally ignored the fact that the glass plate inside the microwave oven was not properly seated on the rollers, assuming that only the duration the papad spent inside the oven mattered for its cooking, and not whether it rotated properly or not. After 36 seconds, my assumption was disproved, and I was left fuming with a papad half of which was burnt and other half uncooked. My initial irritation was, however, soon replaced by grateful realization. I understood that this was nature’s way of teaching me the importance of “Seitou” – the Japanese word for the principle of “everything in its place” (and also one of the famous 5 S’s). I realized then, that I had to properly place the glass plate on the rollers inside the microwave oven. Since I did not do that, the glass plate did not move as a result of which the papad remained in the same position for the entire 36 seconds, turning the outer circle on fire, and the inner one not.

On further inquiry, I understood that in life, too, everything has its own place. Misplacing or not properly aligning your priorities in life only leads us to incomplete or badly completed work. As students in the midst of wonderful college life, we shouldn’t allow our career life to be affected by other things. Student life consists of different aspects such as academics, sports, love-life, career, etc. Out of all these, undoubtedly, our career is what is going to shape our future. The problem arises when we are not clear about our priorities and try to pull along things that are not properly placed. This principle is applicable to people as well. I, for instance, always advise people to keep where they deserve to keep because the amount of distance is imperative for the well-being of any relationship. With this predicate, I think I have more than solved the mystery of the burnt “papad”.

Surviving college:
-A (humorous) guide for incoming Freshmen

By Abhishek Gunduguri

Attention freshmen, attention freshmen. This article is for you. You. Standing there with a confident smile and looking like you have just climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro. It is my pleasure to welcome you to IIT. Yes, that you haven’t been welcomed a gazillion times already. This is my welcome as a TechNews reporter, photographer and a rejected yes. Yes, the last thing is particularly discouraging and a statement to prove that I am not trying to impress you with the other titles.

My intention with trying to write this piece of information is to help you get off the right footing in your first year of a challenging real-life reality program called College. More specifically, you are in college now and you can make your voice heard. Punishment can be up to 10 years in jail, the most stringent laws the Corporate media can think of. Your voice is important, and it’s not just you but everyone that you are with. You chose to come to IIT. It is very much like the two ‘I’s and one ‘T’, I will tell you later what they stand for. (You have been selected to IIT. You have no excuses to forget weekend classes. Even if you have no proper knowledge of anything, other IITians too. It was an incident which I, as an IITian feel ashamed of and is something that I want to forget in a hurry. And earnestly hope doesn’t ever happen again. For hundreds of IITians, May 12, 2007 would have been a date to remember, a day to cherish and a once-in-a-lifetime event. Graduation is not something you get to do every second Saturday of every month of the year, and the amount of prestige and honour that accompanies it is something you have to feel to understand. Graduating in May is definitely grand and accompanied by much fanfare, and it is an event which you would understandably want your family and friends to witness - whether it is a PhD in Computer Science or MS in Environmental Engineering or BS in Food Sciences or MBA in Operations Research that you have completed here, at IIT. IIT prides itself on being a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-racial and multi-lingual university, and the cross-section of people we have here is quite eye-opening. Hence, it is obvious that parents and family members from all corners of the globe would be here to witness the graduation of their children. Summer, being a good time to visit the US as well, would be more reason to make the trip. The Civic Opera House of Chicago is considered to be one of the world’s most beautiful opera houses and with its hybrid Art Nouveau-Art Deco style, it makes for an architecturally exquisite and really wonderful place to have your graduation ceremony. With hearts full of hope and minds full of pride came parents and family members of graduating students came from near and far, as far as India, China, Japan, the Middle East, Europe, Russia, to sample a few. But what happened on May 12, 2007 at the Civic Opera House of Chicago? As far as we are concerned, one of them would have even dreamed in their wildest dreams in the last 100 hundred individuals had gate-crashed into the graduation theater without tickets. No amount of explaining and convincing by the authorities could serve to soothe the plight of those unfortunate enough to be stuck outside the auditorium and being denied the opportunity to see their loved ones being bestowed academic honour inside. The blame game immediately started, with the school authorities blaming the Lyric Opera House of Chicago for mismanagement, and the other party crying foul as well. For us, the affected, it didn’t matter any more. Whether it was the fault of the School authorities or the Lyric Opera House, we don’t know, and we don’t care. It might not mean too much to me as a first year Grad student to miss my graduation ceremony, but it was really moving to even try to imagine myself in the position of all those poor souls who traveled thousands of miles just to see their beloved graduates. The United States of America is renowned for its management and having a closer home feeling, the Stuart School of Business is a reputed Business school in America. That an organization that governs thousands of people, that was supposed to be able to efficiently organize and manage people for a couple of hours on a momentous day strikes one as a rather pathetic irony. A recorded video of the whole ceremony would only be a miserable compensation for those that missed out.

On the whole, a fiasco which all of us associated with IIT would like to forget. Here’s hoping that the “powers that be” take steps to ensure that such mishaps do not EVER occur again at Illinois Institute of Technology.
Hydrogen fuel cell Fusion sets land speed record

Press Release

DEARBORN, Aug. 15, 2007 -- The Ford Fusion Hydrogen 999 raced to a record 207.297 miles per hour Wednesday at the famous Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, which makes the world’s first and only production vehicle-based fuel cell race car the fastest as well.

After more than one year of design and development and 10 years of hydrogen vehicle research, Ford’s fuel cell vehicle team battled technical difficulties and a harsh desert environment en route to joining the 200 MPH Club of Bonneville Speed Week, an annual event that attracts hundreds of racing teams.

“What we’ve accomplished is nothing short of an industry first,” said Matt Zuehlk, lead engineer on the project. “No other automaker in the world has come close.”

Zuehlk added that Ford’s historic run at Bonneville is to further expand its technological horizons with fuel cell-powered vehicles, because it is a fuel that could someday play a key role in meeting the energy needs of the transportation sector. The Ford Fusion Hydrogen 999 is Ford’s latest environmental innovation and is another step on the road toward commercially viable hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

The project is a partnership between Ford, The Ohio State University Center for Automotive Research, Ballard Power Systems and Rough Racing. Rick Byrnes, a veteran Bonneville racer and retired Ford Powertain component design engineer, piloted the Hydrogen 999 at Bonneville.

Ride sharing to Chicago airports makes travel easy

-Chicago based startup provides chauffeured Town Car service to O’Hare and Midway for less than the cost of a cab.

Press Release

Chicago, IL – Finding convenient and economical transportation to O’Hare and Midway has always been challenging. Cabs are expensive, airport shuttles are time consuming and asking friends or family for a ride tends to be a last resort for many. Residents of Chicago and surrounding suburbs now have a another option with MyShareRide.com

MyShareRide.com recently launched its online ride sharing service which aims to solve the common problem of expensive and difficult commutes to both Chicago airports. The service operates entirely through its intuitive website, available at http://www.MyShareRide.com. The service allows travelers to book rides online and split the fare with other travelers located near them.

“Flying always seems be a hassle but getting to the airport doesn’t have to be” said Gaurav Jalpota, Founder of MyShareRide.com, “it’s a smart way to travel.” MyShareRide matches commuters based on their itinerary and location, making the commute to the airport quick and comfortable.

Since the fares are split between commuters, rides from downtown to O’Hare can be as low as $20, while rides from downtown to Midway can be as low as $18. The website requires a 24-hour advanced reservation and is available to over 300 cities in Northern Illinois.

“Our objective isn’t necessarily to be the cheapest way to get to the airport but instead provide the best value” said Neil Sorathia, CEO of MyShareRide, “combining the comfort and reliability of privately chauffeured vehicles with our ride sharing concept, allows us to provide a high end service at an affordable price”

For more information, visit http://www.MyShareRide.com

MyShareRide.com launched its service in July 2007, with the goal of empowering consumers with the tools and a platform to transform how they travel to O’Hare and Midway International airports.

Contact:
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press@MyShareRide.com
Website: http://www.MyShareRide.com
Interview with President John L. Anderson

Continued from front

Response) It depends on the number of people interested in taking the survey, normally small numbers, 50-100.

President Anderson: Do you know how many responded for IIT?

Response) Silence.

President Anderson: That’s one thing that I would find out, because when the numbers are small that means those who felt strongly, either positively or negatively, responded. You don’t get a full picture of the population’s opinion.

President Anderson: On that subject, I’m establishing office hours for the whole president and provost. We do it with our houses, we do it with our buildings. For example, you should look at the roof of your house every year, but most of us don’t. Then, all of the sudden, it’s in bad shape, and you either have to do a massive renovation or put on a new roof, which I had to do once. It’s called deferred maintenance because every year you’re not making repairs. It’s easier to defer maintenance because the building is not shut down. It’s a bad idea. It costs a lot of money. We think we need to do it more.

Q) If you would like to contribute to the Campus News Section or would like to see something else in it Contact Jide

The president being an advocate for student life also sets the tone, which I believe will help. The faculty also has to appreciate this, too, so I’d encourage you to do that. We’ve also been excited that the student activity fee is increased to $500.

Q) What are you plans for improving student life, inside and outside the dorms, apartments, and greek houses?

President Anderson: Why do they happen? Why does it happen? It happens here and at other universities because when there is a budget crunch, it’s easiest to defer maintenance because the students are not there. Either it can’t be done or you have to do it slowly by fixing it for fifteen minutes. I’ve visited with LIFE, a wonderful organization, as well as a couple of the fraternities. Just by showing up as the president, I think it says that student life is important. In the end, the students have to use peer pressure to make each other active outside the classroom.

Q) Ranked 15 by the Princeton Review for “long lines and red tape”, how much of an issue do you feel this is?

President Anderson: I honestly don’t know. I have to look into it, but with that statement you need specifics. There are things you can look at and talk about. I don’t think there is a large new building initiative. For instance, this year we’re making some improvements within Main Building. It’s a beautiful building on the inside, but inside it’s in poor condition. This will take a few million dollars just to get started, but it must be done. There has also been amazing work done on Wishnick Hall, Stuart Building, and some others. The past three years, although I don’t know the exact number, we have spent many millions of dollars on capital improvements, not counting the NTCC and the new dormitory. We are addressing the deferred maintenance problem, and as long as we continue to do that, the university will get better and better.

Q) IIT also ranked number nine on “professors get low marks” and 4 on “professors make themselves scarce” in the previous student survey. The university has about 9800 students. The same can be said for Case Western. The land mass here is large enough as well. It takes some time to walk from one end of the campus to the other. The key is that we also have Chicago. What more do you want?

Response) It used to be. Now it isn’t. If you look around, the landscaping has really been done well. I’ve only been here for three weeks, but it looks pretty good to me. We’re rehabilitating some of the buildings, and others need work, there’s no question. But if you go to any other university you’ll see buildings that need work. Our campus is definitely not unsightly.

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President Anderson: Professor get low marks. It’s because we haven’t done anything about it. Students are saying, why does it happen? It happens here and at other universities because when there is a budget crunch, it’s easiest to defer maintenance because the students are not there. Either it can’t be done or you have to do it slowly by fixing it for fifteen minutes. I’ve visited with LIFE, a wonderful organization, as well as a couple of the fraternities. Just by showing up as the president, I think it says that student life is important. In the end, the students have to use peer pressure to make each other active outside the classroom.

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Response) It used to be. Now it isn’t. If you look around, the landscaping has really been done well. I’ve only been here for three weeks, but it looks pretty good to me. We’re rehabilitating some of the buildings, and others need work, there’s no question. But if you go to any other university you’ll see buildings that need work. Our campus is definitely not unsightly.

President Anderson: That’s one thing that I would find out, because when the numbers are small that means those who felt strongly, either positively or negatively, responded. You don’t get a full picture of the population’s opinion.

President Anderson: On that subject, I’m establishing office hours for the whole president and provost. We do it with our houses, we do it with our buildings. For example, you should look at the roof of your house every year, but most of us don’t. Then, all of the sudden, it’s in bad shape, and you either have to do a massive renovation or put on a new roof, which I had to do once. It’s called deferred maintenance because every year you’re not making repairs. It’s easier to defer maintenance because the building is not shut down. It’s a bad idea. It costs a lot of money. We think we need to do it more.

Q) What would you do with updating some of IIT’s technology like information technology, and computers, science lab equipment?

President Anderson: One thing - I have seen a couple of classrooms that look really good, and there has been a sustained effort in the last three years by the university to bring all of our classroom technology up to date and laboratory equipment necessary to run the classes reasonably well.

Q) What does it take to move IIT into the Top 100 universities in the US college and universities rankings. Do you think we have the potential to go to the Top-50?

President Anderson: Yes, we went up by about 10 spots and that is encouraging. Well, rankings have some importance but you have to look at the outcomes that the ranking system measures. IIT has over 32000 alumni and 10000 current students, over 5000 colleges and universities. If you are in the top 100, you are in pretty decent company. We would like to be higher; I would like to be in the Top 50. We have done everything we can that I’m aware of, but there are other factors that constitute the historic core of IIT. How do you plan on strengthening the engineering and physical science programs?

President Anderson: First let me say that the commitment is by IIT and was not initiated by me, though I agree it is a good strategy for IIT. One of the main goals is to strengthen IIT by strengthening engineering and the sciences. I think the reason that I was one of the finalists, and there were others like myself, was that someone who had served as dean of engineering is able to understand the needs of the disciplines associated with it. My background as chair of chemical engineering and dean of engineering at Carnegie Mellon University provides me with the necessary knowledge to make that happen. When investigating in programs and infrastructure, we need to keep an eye on the concept of “comparative advantage”, which is sometimes known as “strategic advantage”. This means that while everything we do must be done competently, investments should be made in those programs where we have the advantage because of our faculty or support from local companies and other organizations; we are looking for national impact and visibility with these investments.
Interview with President John L. Anderson

President Anderson addresses students at the President’s Welcome during this year’s welcome week.

Continued from page 3

top ten for those years – head to head competition trumps peer rankings. My point is that it gets harder and harder as you go up. Going from a ranking outside 100 to 96th place is something to celebrate, and we should celebrate. It is probably real because I learned that IIT is improving before I interviewed for this job. So I knew there was movement.

Now what can we do to keep it going? We can keep going upward in three ways. One is by improving the campus, our research programs and student life. Second, we will improve our rankings if students feel good about being here and graduating from here. Consider the Princeton Review. Where do they get the data? If our students wrote ‘this is a great place’ what would happen? I am not saying we should lie, but you could have the glass half full instead of half empty. Our job, faculty and administration, is to make students feel this way. The third approach to improving our reputation is through national and international visibility. This requires the efforts of the president, provost, deans and faculty, as well as senior administrators. We must get the IIT name out there. And of course, our Communications and Marketing office led by Rose Milkowski, and our Government/Community Relations office led by David Baker are vital here.

How far can we go? I think IIT can get into the Top 50. Can we do it in 10 years? I don’t know – it is possible. I would be disappointed if we didn’t get into the top 75 over the next seven years. I’m a realist and an optimist. In addition to the faculty, the students and alumni play important roles. How good the current and past students feel about IIT factor into the rankings.

What’s interesting about rankings is even though an alumna/us graduated many years ago, she or he would feel great if IIT were ranked higher and had more national visibility. I graduated from University of Delaware in 1967, and even though the University is better than when I attended it, I still feel very good as it has improved in the national rankings. After you graduate you will feel that way about IIT. I really think the positive jump last year is real, but we will find out next year.

Q) As you have held almost every academic position, professor, dean, provost, etc., what do you think is the most valuable experience you have had?

President Anderson: The most valuable experience I had? The most exciting one was when I was assistant professor, there’s no question. Scary too, but exciting. I still remember my first day as a faculty member. It was a very special time, and I learned a lot. The most valuable experience was when I was a department chair. I was the chair of chemical engineering at Carnegie Mellon for 11 years. It was a very fine department with a wonderful group of people and I learned a lot about leadership. I also had to teach, do research and write grant proposals as the chair. I thought it was the most challenging job I had, but it was the most valuable. I also got to talk to students very often. I think the students have done a really good job here and I am impressed with all whom I have met. And the smiles help too [seeing the TechNews reporter smile.] I look forward to more conversations with our students.

Thank you for your time.

Hiring

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Formula Hybrid

Continued from front

The Formula Hybrid Team at IIT is looking for qualified students to participate in the design and construction of a hybrid race car. The car will compete against other schools at the New Hampshire International Speedway in May 2008. Students will be selected based on experience, knowledge, and ability to work in a team setting. Students may receive up to three credit hours over two semesters for research and design implementation. Email Jon Sibley (jfsformula@iit.edu) for more information and to apply.

The New Hampshire Speedway was abuzz with a 100+ participants from eight schools vying for top honors in the inaugural competition. The IIT team came out strong, winning a podium position in the electric acceleration, antecross and endurance events. The official results and pictures of the event are attached. The progress and results of the team were covered by ABC News at 5, Chicago Tribune http://www.chicagotribune.com/classified/automotive/chi-0705109955may15.3.14672497.story, IIT Today and Tecnemews among others. The competition itself was apply covered by local, national, and international media including but not limited to http://www.formula-hybrid.org/news.html. The competition was visited by 400+ spectators that included representatives from Industry, DOE, Academia, Media and 250+ high school students. They were treated to a detailed tour of the cars and mini presentations by students of the respective teams.

IIT is a newcomer to formula racing. However, its prowess in hybrid technology gives them a competitive edge and has garnered them the reputation as “the team to beat” in next year’s competition. The team has chosen a parallel rear engine configuration complete with advanced components. A 250cc engine will be torque-coupled with a BLDC motor for propulsion via a CVT or planetary gearbox. A custom built battery pack utilizes both Li-ion and ultra-capacitors to power the motor and a real time control strategy implemented. A fiberglass body will add to the aerodynamics and aesthetics, taking the car to the next level. There are many factors that contribute to the success of the team. The guidance, management, technology, innovativeness, student motivation, commitment, continued effort and funding will help the team achieve its ultimate goal of winning the Formula Hybrid Competition in 2008.

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A year of action
Continued from front

How to write a winning résumé
By Emily Breckenridge

In today’s job market, human resources professionals and hiring managers are often swamped with stacks of résumés for a single position. With that kind of competition it is extremely important that you make a good first impression to ensure that your employer will select you to pursue you as a candidate. That’s why the first impression, in most cases, is in the form of a résumé. Therefore, it is essential that you submit a quality résumé to every employer.

A résumé is a summary of qualifications for a specific type of work as well as a marketing tool to land an interview. The résumé should reflect your qualifications and what you have to offer an employer. It should be honest, concise and easy to read. Because employers may have limited time to look over a large number of résumés, it is important that you present your information quickly and in a way that makes your experience relevant to the position to which you are applying. Most résumés are one page, and many employers prefer one page résumés. However, if you are an experienced job seeker with more than seven years of relevant work experience, you may need more than one page.

The best resumes include experiences that emphasize skills required for a specific field, industry or position. For example, if the position requires strong interpersonal skills, which of your duties or experiences can be highlighted to demonstrate such skills? It is imperative that you research industries prior to applying to jobs so that you know what skills are most important to emphasize on your résumé. An effective résumé will:

• Focus on the employer’s needs;
• Communicate abilities for the kind of work you want;
• Stress contributions and accomplishments;
• Quantify results;
• Indicate your career direction and interests;
• Be appealing to the eye, concise, easy to read and professional looking;
• Compress the information without being too brief;
• Be completely error free.

Effectiveness in generating job interviews and offers will depend on your ability to communicate your skills and competencies to employers. Identifying skills can be a challenge, and it is a good idea to take an inventory of your experiences, skills and abilities before writing your résumé. Some steps to identifying the skills used in a job are:

• Take an inventory of all of the duties you do—make a laundry list of all of your accomplishments;
• Carefully review job listings for skills that employers seek in a desired field;
• Quantify, when possible (for example, “Supervised a staff of 20” or “Increased sales by 15%”);
• Refer to a thesaurus to find action verbs and adjectives that best describe your experience.

Another tool that can help you create a resume from scratch is WinWay, a resume building program that is available on various computers around both the Main and Downtown Campuses, such as in the Grinn Library. The computers with the program are marked “WinWay.”

Also, don’t forget to have the experts at the CMC look over your résumé before you send it out to employers. When your first draft is complete, come to the CMC to have it critiqued by the Career Advisor who can give you information specific to your industry or field. To arrange an appointment, call (312) 567-6600.

Emily L. Breckenridge, Career Development Specialist, Career Management Center (CMC) with excerpts taken from the Stuart School of Business CMU’s Résumé Writing Guide.

Grant offers tuition aid in Rehab Psychology
By Jack Spani

The Institute of Psychology received a five-year training grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Frank Lane conducted a survey of roughly 200 community rehabilitation programs in the Chicago area, which revealed a shortage of bachelor-level human service workers. The shortages are reaching a critical level. In addition to the need for human service workers in Chicago, there is a well documented national need for master-level rehabilitation counselors. The proposal to the DOE was written in response to these needs and focuses on the training of students who wish to take coursework in preparation for human service work or to fast-track into a master’s program in rehabilitation counseling.

Interested students can pursue one of two options, a rehabilitation services minor that prepares the student for employment as a bachelor-level human services worker or a master’s degree in Rehabilitation Counseling that prepares the student for national Certification as a Rehabilitation Counselor and licensure as a Clinical Professional Counselor in the state of Illinois. Regardless of the track the student chooses, he or she will take a series of five courses that focus on issues faced by people with disabilities and skill sets to prepare the practitioner to work with people with disabilities.

The courses are typically taken in the student’s junior and senior year. In addition to the six series of five courses, the student will design their coursework around their fieldwork experience. The students accomplish this by working with his or her advisor to identify a human service agency to gain practical experience in his or her area of interest that affords the student the opportunity to apply and practice the skill set learned in the degree program. The fieldwork experience is incorporated into the students program of study as the Capstone project. Once a student completes the coursework, he or she can choose to either enter the workforce after earning their bachelor’s degree, or pursue a graduate degree in rehabilitation counseling. If students elect to pursue a master’s degree in Rehabilitation Counseling, the coursework taken for the rehabilitation services minor will be applied towards the graduate curriculum, thereby shortening the degree program one semester.

The purpose of the grant is to support a limited number of students interested in working with people with disabilities. The grant makes monies available to pay for tuition and a small stipend for books in the student’s senior year. Interested students should contact either Dr. Frank Lane, lane@iit.edu, or Dr. Jon Larson, jarson@iit.edu. The minor program is open to all undergraduate students and the accelerated M.S. program is available to all Psychology students. If there is a strong interest then admission to the program will be through a competitive review.

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Pearl Jam, Daft Punk rock Lollapalooza 2007

By Andres De La Hoz
A& E EDITOR

The annual Lollapalooza festival held at Grant Park hosted over 100 bands this year, establishing itself as one of America’s premium festivals after three years of being hosted in Chicago. Some fine-tuning is still needed, however.

The Lollapalooza brand, which in the 90s was one of the symbols of alternative culture, attracts similar types of bands these days. Getting their roster mostly from the indie and alt. scenes, the lineup is solid top-to-bottom. Performers this year included Daft Punk, Pearl Jam, Interpol, Ben Harper, Muse, Iggy and The Stooges, Patti Smith, The Roots, Spoon, and more. Crowds went up to 75,000 in number, though Friday was considerably less crowded than Saturday and Sunday.

There’s a lot to enjoy about a festival like Lollapalooza. The sheer amount of bands present guarantees that you’ll be kept busy most of the day. There is a decent amount of variety among the bands playing so that it doesn’t simply become an alt. rock parade. This year the size of most of the stages was manageable; the only stage that had issues with getting a reasonable spot was the largest stage, where Pearl Jam performed. Even for early-day bands it was packed to the brim. For the rest of the stages, though, people were able to comfortably see the bands from a good position, many choosing simply to camp out.

The quality of the performers was high throughout. Pearl Jam delivered a casual-fan-friendly set, going through many of their hits and live staples. Daft Punk dazzled with their light show. Muse and Interpol, which were tricky choices for headliners, were up to the task and had most of their audience pleased. A memorable highlight was Iggy and The Stooges, with Iggy being the ultimate showman and getting hundreds of crowd members to dance onstage with him.

The level of the less-ranked bands was high too. Part of what makes Lollapalooza appealing is that almost since the time it started, the quality is uniformly excellent. Other festivals take time to hit stride, but in Lollapalooza, by mid-afternoon Friday I’d already seen enough to make it worth it.

There still exist details to fine-tune about Lollapalooza, however. Headliners seem to be one of the main issues, even though it is, in a way, a superficial one. Festivals like Coachella and Bonnaroo attract unique headliners, such as the Rage Against The Machine reunion this year and Daft Punk last year. Lollapalooza had Daft Punk this year, but as part of a tour they’re on, as opposed to the presumably once-in-a-lifetime thing Coachella had in 2006. Lollapalooza still has problems attracting large bands to headline. Last year the headliners were arguably larger, though Daft Punk on Friday was bigger than any of last year’s Friday headliners, Kanye on Saturday in 2006 attracted a far more ecstatic crowd and was a greater ‘event’ than the evenly divided Muse/Interpol lineup.

But how can they improve on headliners? At its heart, Lollapalooza is supposed to be an alternative festival. It is nothing like that anymore, as the corporate-named stages and thousands of yuppies show, but the lineup is still not entirely mainstream. The task that Perry Farrell and crew have is to get headliners that are big enough to attract the masses and sell more tickets, while not being a total departure of what they generally have. While a festival like Bonnaroo or Coachella has higher-profile headliners, do those even fit Lollapalooza? Bonnaroo’s main attraction this year was The Police. Regardless of your opinion on Sting and Co., they’d hardly fit at Lolla. So far the strategy has been to recruit 90’s alt rock bands that are now venerated (RHCP, Pearl Jam), but they’re running out of bands to recruit.

All in all, though, Lollapalooza is a success. Barring a few issues, it is a perfect city festival. It has the comfort of being held downtown at a major city, and doesn’t require camping or anything of the sort. It boosts the city’s nightlife for the entire weekend, it is one of America’s premium festivals and it is uniformly excellent. Other festivals take time to hit stride, but in Lollapalooza, by mid-afternoon Friday I’d already seen enough to make it worth it.
If one is to read through the archives of TechNews from the 1950s, it's easy to see that it was a tumultuous time. Almost every article is either about a dance for students or about some sort of bureaucratic conflict. My favorite, by far, is the “Slipstick” conflict of the 1954-55 academic year.

In 1954 Dean of Students Deakins eliminated the Slipstick column, a humor column that had begun publication in 1928, when Armour Tech News was first printed. The elimination was due to “adverse publicity” - and given that he banned suggestive cartoons or stories with the threat of disciplinary action, you can see why.

Volume 57, Issue 913, published on January 14th, 1955. Lanny Gust was named the new editor-in-chief of TechNews and proclaimed as such in a page 1 story. All was well. His first true test was Issue #14, when he ran into a hole he could not plug on page 2. Days prior, he had casually asked the Dean of Students, during a chance encounter, if it was alright to print a joke he had. Dean Deakins plainly stated “No, you don’t get me out on that limb,” and left.

Lanny took from this that he was given discretion over the matter and could print the joke if he didn’t see it objectionable, and listed it under the Slipstick. He printed the joke and a cartoon left over from a file of cartoons in the office.

In the next issue, furor evidently arose, as evidenced in a column entitled “Furor arises over “Slipstick” issue, discipline committee to act.” A ‘controversial report’ was submitted by the Publications Board that stated while they did not agree with the decision to drop the Slipstick from TechNews, they recognized it as a ruling and therefore advised the Illinois Tech Student Association to request Lanny Gust’s resignation, suggesting that the editor’s action was made “in both haste and ignorance.” The board rejected the motion, acknowledging that he was a new editor, was not fully briefed on the banning of the Slipstick, and made the decision under some great pressure, and that an apology would suffice. Everyone makes mistakes, after all - should one have to resign for said mistakes?

The next week five editors were put on disciplinary probation and prohibited from all extracurricular activities for two semesters, with the exception of Gust, who got three. The associate editor, news editor, copy editor and makeup editor were held responsible for not challenging Gust.

A few weeks over there was a contest to find the new name for the jokes column and the President wrote in, suggesting that the editor of Tech News get a full scholarship (almost $300!) for the semester in which they serve.

By the end of the year, a new editor for the following semester had been selected. Also, that same editor was drafted by the army and the ITSA charged election fraud against the student government elections.

Oh, the 1950s. Such a tumultuous time.

I’ve decided to rebrand the SideShow section as The Slipstick, in a nod to the long and varied history of IIT. Like the revival of Napster, I hope to pursue the same goals as the old Slipstick (free music over the internet) without any of the messy side-effects (hilariously illegal).

I hope there are no objections.

That is all.

What is The Slipstick?

By Joe Kaiser

If one is to read through the archives of TechNews from the 1950s, it’s easy to see that it was a tumultuous time. Almost every article is either about a dance for students or about some sort of bureaucratic conflict. My favorite, by far, is the “Slipstick” conflict of the 1954-55 academic year.

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This Day in TechNews History...

Volume #26, Issue #0, 8/29/1940, Page 1: School Starts In October, Apparently
IIT’s regular schedule of starting school in October frustrated many a Slipstick editor in the distant future while perusing the campus news website as he approached deadline on Sunday Night. All were unaffected.

Volume #63, Issue #0, 8/29/1957, Page 1: Crosswords take up a lot of space
IIT continued to start school long after August had passed. When a future editor of the Slipstick didn’t receive a set of crosswords in time to add to the first issue of the year, he was surprised at how much he had to write to compensate.

Volume #93, Issue #1, 8/29/1971, Page 1: Enrollment Drops! Farr Hall Closes!
Upon returning to campus for the 1971-1972 school year, students were shocked to see that enrollment all around the campus had dropped dramatically. Students were forced to share rooms with zero other people and were made to use lounges for lounge-related activities, and the then-residential Farr Hall still was dangerously undercrowded. Following its closing, IIT never had any housing issues ever again.

Volume #95, Issue #1, 8/27/1973, Page 3: IIT Jazz Lab
In 1973, IIT introduced its first degree in Jazz Engineering. The Jazz Lab featured a high powered Jazz Accelerator that could collide Jazz particles to produce huge Jazz Reactions, as well as a subpentatonic microscope. The program lasted less than 2 years, as the advent of Disco obsoleted the Jazz.

--Compiled by Joe Kaiser

Worst Facebook Applications
By Joe Kaiser
Marcel Marceau quote generator
My Flooz
Scott Podsednik News Feed
The Apolitical Compass
The Unemployer
The O(n^2) efficiency CO2 producer
American Temperance Society Badge
The Redundopoker
Border Patrol Gift Confiscator
Mood, expressed by Elijah Dukes Honesty Box

A shocking secret coffee cos don’t want you to know!

By Joe Kaiser
In 1959 an American coffee satellite went down over Siberia. The KGB recovered it in order to perform their own coffee-related experiments. Unbeknownst to them, there was a tracking device on that very satellite. The satellite was being tracked by one Folgers Maxwell Rambo.

After a long and cinematic recapture of the rogue satellite all appeared to be well with the world - except the coffee secrets of the world had been tampered with.

In early 1961 the Starbuck Valley Explosion was the deadly consequence of faulty coffee data, setting American coffee technology back by at least 20 years. Faced with a potentially volatile consumer base and a vulturous tea industry, the American Coffee association was left with only one harrowing option. That fall, they were forced to shift all coffee production to the jungles of Constantinople.

The Soviets were justifiably concerned as it brought American coffee production to within striking distance of Moscow.

After a terse face-off between Kennedy and Khrushchev in which the Cold War almost percolated, the Soviets agreed to decommission all coffee production in the Western Hemisphere.

Unfortunately, Coffee production never quite reached the levels it once had met before the Turkish Coffee Crisis, and American Coffee Corporations were forced to generate excess coffee volume through other sources. Dirt was briefly tried, as was post-consumer motor oil, but consumers reported the aroma was never quite as tangy as it once was.

By 1982, Coffee scientists were working around the clock to find something to give coffee the same consistency it once had in the volumes required by an ever-more decaffeinated America. A few customers had even gone so far as to switch to tea permanently. The American Coffee industry was dangerously close to total failure.

A 1983 bailout gave the Coffee Industry a much needed influx of funds as it shot in the dark for new coffee-replication technology. A brief war was started with the Dominican Republic and the largest companies were given contracts for the specific harvesting of Dominican coffee crops, but the D.R. is a small country, much smaller than Turkey. There was only one final route upon which the coffee cos had not yet trod.

By Joe Kaiser
Long story short, Coffee is actually made of horses. Tell your friends.
By Stephanie Herrera

SPORTS EDITOR

Coach Peacock and his staff covered the map in search of what is expected to be the best and strongest class in the program history and has announced the Lady Hawks setting high goals for the 2007 season.

Big goals for the Women’s Volleyball team this year.

Coach Hendry expects to take conference and the regional tourney. Last year the Scarlet Hawks finish with 27-17 overall putting them in 4th place. Coach Hendry has set the Lady Hawks for the 2007 season: Big goals for the Women’s Volleyball team this year. Coach Hendry expects to take conference and the regional tourney. Last year the Scarlet Hawks finish with 27-17 overall putting them in 4th place. Coach Hendry has set the Lady Hawks for the 2007 season.

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Lady Hawks setting high goals for the 2007 season.

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Big goals for the Women’s Volleyball team this year.

Coach Hendry expects to take conference and the regional tourney. Last year the Scarlet Hawks finish with 27-17 overall putting them in 4th place. Coach Hendry has set achievable goals for the season considering they finished 7-2 in Conference and tied for 3rd place. Only losing to Trinity International and all school rival and neighbors, Saint Xavier, the returning seniors, #7 Raisa Pelae (outside hitter), #14 Allison #15 Amber blocker, know to be a winning barely making the regional semi-finals and will be able to add the five new additions to the Women’s Volleyball team. Here to help this year is Courtesy Lanoureaux from Marshall, IL, Alyssa Walther from Chicago, IL, Victoria Stehney from Chicago, IL, Stephanie Harmon from Grand Rapids, MI, and redshirting this year is Elena Balhus from Grand Rapids, MI. With these numbers, Coach Hendry and the Lady Hawks are sure to achieve any goal they set this year. Come see the Women’s Volleyball team seek revenge against conference foe, Trinity International at their first home match on Tuesday, September 4th, 7pm at Keating.

Health Tip of the Week

In soccer, what is called when a player either passes or dribbles the ball between the legs of his opponent?

A. Cinnamon
B. Scissors
C. Nutmeg
D. Tunneling

Answer in next week's issue 2

By Stephanie Herrera

SPORTS EDITOR

This unusual sport was discovered, believed it or not, in an Office Depot. Office Depot Jouster is a sport that allows you to test products and exercise competitive shopping. You need at least 5 players, 2 roller chairs, 2 rulers of the same length and two binders. The teams are made up of two players, one in the chair and one pushing. The fifth person is of the most importance. This person is the ref. They are responsible for lining up the players in the right starting points of the isle, making sure the aisle stays clear and most importantly of informing the teams when they have been kicked out of the store. Each team goes on the command of the ref. The goal is to get the players hard enough to leave a bruise. This is important because this how the score is kept. The object is to avoid getting bruised by using the binder to block attempted strikes. A point is added, per player, that goes any direction but forward, prevents any back outs at the last minute. If you decide to chicken out at the last minute it is perfectly legal to stay in one spot and let the other team come to you. Both players in play are also the score is added up by counting the bruises on each player. There are only two important rules, no hitting below the belt or above the neck, and no hitting the ref. Some tips to keep the game lasting as long as possible, chose an aisle in the back of the store but away from any stock room doors and try not to make contact with the chairs because it may cause a chair to break.