Fish Fans Crazy for Reel Big Fish

By Eun-Sem Jennifer Kil

Last week on Thursday August 30th, IIT hosted a well received concert event in Morton Park. Along with the ska band headliner, Reel Big Fish, the Secondary, an IIT student band and Terminal White, an IIT faculty band, also made an appearance. In addition to a large presence of students from IIT, there was also quite a collection of students from the Chicago Area. Even after the concert started, there was a consistent flow of people showing up to enjoy the music and the company. As time flew by the crowd grew huge.

The atmosphere was comfortable so that those who liked to relax were on the grass and those who wanted to be near the music, you knew who they were. Sometimes the crowd was getting a bit crazy, but there wasn’t a chance for the crowd to be able to ignore Reel Big Fish’s energy and their huge variety of instruments. Their mix of bass, drums, trumpets and more genuinely showed their true foundations of ska punk. Their humorous explanations between songs drove fans to relax and have fun while getting to learn more about the band. The fusion of good core punk with a Jamaican twist was so fresh to the crowd that many couldn’t resist their body moving to the beat.

Reel Big Fish performed several songs including “Sell Out”, “Freddy”, “I Want Your Girlfriend To Be My Girlfriend Too”, “Beer”, “Where Have You Been?”, and other songs from their new album “Monkeys For Nothing And The Chimps For Free”. Their current members include lead vocalist & guitarist Aaron Barrett, vocalist & musician for several instruments Scott Blasi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi went tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor.

The secondary is a student band out of IIT.

The crowd moves to the sound of the Reel Big Fish.  Photo by Sarah Rowes

See what’s new in the Slipstick, formerly the Sideshow.

pages 10-11

SLIPSTICK

By Babajide Oke

Welcome week allows the new students to orientating the freshman class before they begin. How? This year, IIT tried something it never has before: orientating the freshman class before they arrived on campus in the fall. The Office of Student Activities headed by Mary Taylor-Blaisi worked tirelessly to successfully launch 3 summer orientation sessions for the incoming class. The goal of this was to allow students experience IIT during the summer, get to know their class better without the busyness first week brings, take placement exams and even get registered for classes. Also this time afforded students the opportunity to meet and network with IIT faculty and staff as well as the few upper class students on campus. Having between 100-150 students at each session helped to develop a well needed social component amongst the students. In a recent discussion with Mary, director of Student Activities and Undergraduate Orientation, she emphasized that the school is being proactive in its effort to increase its retention rate is proactively seeking new ways to attain this goal.

Mary also shed more light on Welcome Week which is also a new development on our campus. This is aimed at providing a fun atmosphere for both new and returning students. After being orientated over the summer, Welcome week allows the new students to begin to feel more comfortable with the campus and settle in well. The returning students were not forgotten too as programs offered were open to all. This time of the year is definitely different that it has been in the past as most new students did not have to worry about registration, attending orientations sessions, taking placement exams as well as trying to have fun. It has taken a lot of stress of students and once again accelerated the relationship building amongst the class. Some of the exciting welcome week events included Playfair, a huge teambuilder/icemaker, egg launching contests, Chicago city exploration, a day of service and so much more. Students also got the chance to be addressed by the new president, John Anderson. We cannot also forget the numerous activities IIT’s rank rises a tad, 57th in ‘Best Programs’

By Abhishek Gunduguri

Illinois Institute of Technology has a reason to celebrate. IIT's ranking by the US News & World Report 2008 America's Best Colleges has risen to 96th rank from the previous 114th last year. In the latest edition, IIT is tied 96th with 10 other universities. In the latest edition, IIT is tied 96th with 10 other universities.

The US News report says their ranking system is based on two aspects regarding student life and college experience. According to the US News report, even though all the intangibles cannot be reduced to numbers, they are based on widely accepted indicators of excellence. A few of the many factors used to measure these facets are the feel of campus life, activities, sports, academic offerings, location, cost and availability of financial aid. US News also asked university presidents, deans of colleges, chief academic officers to nominate ten aspects that they think are important.

The consensus was on these following aspects regarding student life and college experience. According to the US News report, even though all the intangibles cannot be reduced to numbers, they are based on widely accepted indicators of excellence. A few of the many factors used to measure these facets are the feel of campus life, activities, sports, academic offerings, location, cost and availability of financial aid. US News also asked university presidents, deans of colleges, chief academic officers to nominate ten aspects that they think are important. The consensus was on these following aspects; on quantitative measures that education experts have proposed as reliable indicators of academic quality and on those [US News] nonpartisan view of what matters in education. They have also used...
Was Rush Limbaugh really right?

By Joshua Mullin

OPINION EDITOR

Internet drama. It’s sweeping the nation. We’ve got the so-called “emo movement,” (“That’s a separate article altogether. I’ve got much to say about that.”), the Livejournal/Xanga/Choose-your blogging-tool nation, the Facebook stalkers, the IRC nerds, and the forum lurkers/trolls/posters. They all have one thing in common: Drama. There’s so much drama on the Internet that this could be a popular column for me. We’ll see.

For those who may not remember, I’m really anti-extremists (a staunch republican pisses me off as much as an overzealous democrat). I really didn’t care who won American Idol. People handing me religious paraphernalia kind of upset me, and I don’t like people who are so committed to a cause that they abandon all common sense. I’m always the type of person who likes to believe there’s a middle ground between two peoples’ beliefs. This is why I submit to you that the woman I’m about to talk about is not only a terrible person, but certifiably insane.

I’m all for people standing up for their causes. I enjoy a good political debate. I love the idea of freedom of expression, eradicating censorship, and I can deal with people conveying their personal beliefs in the correct context and demeanor. I love the idea of being free to say whatever I want whenever I want because it’s my right (I’m fine with someone saying something that I could, at any time, be on the cup of a political or social movement that will change the world). I’m all for extremism—because she can use her free speech to stand up for any impulsive thought that may cross our minds.

That said, I think that some peoples’ farfetched ideas of what a cause can really stand for make the rest of the people who believe in a cause look really bad. The title of this article refers to a word Rush Limbaugh coined. “Feminazis,” as he called them, were hardcore feminists who had so much belief in the feminist movement that he compared their dedication to that of the Nazis. Before you get upset or start with the “How dare he?” I have an example to prove.

In the responses of the Internet, there exists a blogger who personifies this word. Her name is “Biting Beaver.” Her avatar? A witty little human being a phallic-shaped piece of wood in half. Biting Beaver had a moral and ethical dilemma. Like most sane individuals, she asked the Internet for help.

Sometime around early August, Ms. Beaver, a self-proclaimed radical feminist posted around, asking for help with what to do about her 17 year old son who was, “addicted to porn.” She claimed that her son was banned from the Internet for looking at pornography, then banned from video games because he and a sibling’s Sony PSP to browse for pornography once being banned from the computer. She then continued on a diatribe about how sex is a right. I will tell you, I have some. It is not rare. She said, “I know, that as soon as my child leaves my home and moves into his own place that he will be looking at porn imminently. I know that I am raising a problem for women. I know that this child will One day grow and will fully absorb the messages that porn sends to men. I know that my child masturbates to degradation of my people (when I use that phrase I mean womyn [sic] and that with every orgasm he will further solidify his hatred of and superiority over, women.

She then continued with, “I know that there will likely come a day where my son coresses a young woman into sex (rape) and there isn’t a dammed thing I can do about it. I took a peek of eyes of my son and they still sparkle like they did when he was a baby, but he’s not a baby anymore, he’s growing into aheader that man will have trained himself to degrade women before he leaves my home.”

I’m all for feminism. I read somewhere that Chicago is the only city in the country where women out-earn men, and I’m okay with that, but what this woman says is an outrage to me. This woman is calling her 17 year old son a rapist and that generalizing that all men are as well. I’m fine with someone saying something a little extremist even now and then. People get caught up in their causes. However, if your cause involves attacking children in the name of your cause, I do not like you, and I think you’re a travesty to the cause you are fighting for. This woman has crossed the line of free speech and has delved into the realm of child abuse—Perhaps not with the previous quotes, but definitely with the following one (VERY GRAPHIC).

“(I) hate myself for not pouring him down the sink at Planned Parenthood or grabbing a marly coat hanger [sic] and doing the job myself even if it killed me.” This woman believes so blindly in her cause that she would rather, in hindsight, have aborted her child than allow him to objectify women by looking at Internet pornography. To that, I say, “Give all three of your children to foster care. You do not deserve to have children. Seriously.”

I’m all about a women having the right to choose. It’s not my body. I have a friend who had an abortion. I think less of her as a result. However, this radical feminist made her choice 17 years ago. She chose to have her child, and she chose to take this child, with any imperfections, because that’s what mothers do. What happens when this 17 year old child gets on the Internet at school and finds out what her mother said about him? Sex therapist. “Mommy wanted me aborted.” It’s sickening, and it gives feminists a bad name. Rush Limbaugh, although not a sex therapist, when he talks about the word world by any means, was absolutely right about people like her. While I don’t agree with his use of speech, as he applied it to some people it may not have been appropriate for, I think this woman fit the bill, and I think the comparison between her beliefs and actions and those of the Nazis is a fair one.

Biting Beaver’s statements have sparked a huge campaign to find her son. The “Quest for Brandon,” as it’s so-called, ironically contains a bunch of women who took bare-breasted pictures with things such as, “Save Brandon,” written on their chests. Biting Beaver really pulled through for the last right! Way to stomp on the objectification of women by encouraging more pornography to be created... In reference to your son, no less.

Word of the Week

JILL OFF: The female version of “jack off.”

Save your SexTech questions to: itsextech@gmail.com

Send your SexTech questions to:

Biting Beaver’s statements have sparked a huge campaign to find her son. The “Quest for Brandon,” as it’s so-called, contains a bunch of women who took bare-breasted pictures with things such as, “Save Brandon,” written on their chests. Biting Beaver really pulled through for the last right! Way to stomp on the objectification of women by encouraging more pornography to be created... In reference to your son, no less.

If you would like to contribute to the Opinion Section, or would like to see something else in it Contact Josh mulljos@iit.edu

Cooperative education: Now with 90% less hassle

By Joshua Mullin

OPINION EDITOR

Last year, I wrote a full-page article detailing the seemingly-endless array of forms you must fill out to get a co-op job. For those who didn’t catch that or weren’t there yet, a cooperative education job is like a full or part time job that you can take in addition to classes. That is, you can take a part-time load of classes and a full-time job, or you can take part-time classes with a part-time job. The aim is to get professional experience in your field before you graduate and to allow International students to get work authorization while they’re attending school.

The Career Management Center (CMC—Formerly known as the Career Development Center - CDC) has vastly simplified the amount of paperwork necessary to renew a co-op job. It used to be that you had to fill out four or five forms, go in for an appointment, and get your co-op approved or denied on the spot. Now it is only one form to turn in, and the rest can be done in the comfort of your own dorm room. The new online co-op renewal system forwards your co-op application to the correct career counselor. They will email you the correct permit to sign up for a co-op.

Now it’s a really easy 3-step process.

1. Fill out the “Work-term evaluation” form, turn it in.
2. Fill out the online co-op renewal form.
3. Register for your course when you receive a confirmation email.

I really only have one complaint about the whole system in that it’s still fairly International Student centered. That is, there are certain questions about US citizens and other such things that US citizens don’t need to worry about when applying for a co-op. Most non-International IT students don’t even know about the co-op program because they don’t need a co-op to legally work in the US.

There are a couple little bugs in the system that I plan to report as well. My co-op instruction was a little rusty this semester (it all took about two days total), and I’m happy to report that this method of renewing far surpasses the hand-crimping hours of writing I used to have to do with all that paperwork.

The CMC has done an excellent job in lowering the amount of paperwork necessary to accomplish a simple task. They win my seal of approval for reducing bureaucracy at IIT. Somebody give these people an award.

Joshua Mullin
A year ago, I decided that I wanted to purchase a six pack of beer for a barbecue that I was attending. I stopped by the local Dominics’s, selected the necessary item, and went on over to the checkout. When the cashier asked me for my ID, I gladly obliged, as I’m over the age of 21 and therefore qualified in the entire United States to purchase alcoholic beverages.

Apparently, in the eyes of the Dominics’s staff, I’m not. I was very hastily told that they couldn’t accept my ID, sorry. When I asked as to why this was the case, the manager shuffled over and bellowed at me, “It’s an underage ID, we don’t accept those.” Bewildered, I informed him of my birthday and the required math to show him that I was indeed of age. He didn’t care, and marched off. I did the same.

The “underage ID” that gave me such a problem was a thin strip of red on my California driver’s license that states, “Age 21 in 2006.” As you know, it’s no longer 2006, this thing should be valid, right? No. Why do I have this kind of ID? I had to renew my driver’s license and I received it two days before I turned 21. The screw.

Up until this last Friday, I was under the impression that this was the doing of a short-sighted, moronic corporate policy put in place by board members who didn’t know how to solve problems.

Little did I know, the State of Illinois put into effect a law that prevents the sale of alcohol to anyone who has such an ID, regardless of their actual age.

I’m now 22, and when I went to a different store to purchase a beverage, the same exact thing happened. When I once again did the necessary math to show that I was 22 and their policy flawed, they told me it was a state law, there was nothing they could do about it. In addition, this kind of thing happens on a daily basis there.

I question why such a law even exists. It’s not my fault that I have an ID that has this evil red strip. I’m above the age of 21, and I should be able to purchase alcohol if I see fit. In this country, the age at which you are allowed to consume is 21.

As you can probably see, this boggles my mind. I wonder what would happen if I went in on the last day my license was valid (four years from now, that would make me 26), and tried to pull the same stunt. How likely is it that I would be turned away? The sad truth is that I would, because it seems that in this state logic and simple math escapes those who put laws into place to try to control the population. Come on, guys... what were you thinking?

I don’t believe in any sort of substance control laws. People should be able to eat/ drink/smoke whatever they want to and deal with the consequences. It’s their personal choice, and they will deal with the results of a heavy night of drinking or mouth cancer in 40 years from excessive smoking. The government really has no reason to meddle in these kinds of individual affairs, even if it’s under the blanket statement of “We’re trying to protect you.” Screw that. Let us think and act on our own, and get your small-minded, ridiculous policies out of my way. I have a life to live.

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**Student Government Association**

**How do I get involved?**

Attend General Assembly Events where you can talk face-to-face with university decision-makers about hot issues, learn more about SGA, and stay informed about what’s going on around campus. Run for office in the Student Senate, where you can vote on legislation, rally for causes, and represent your constituency to the rest of the school. Get involved as a member of one of many committees, vie for a seat on Judicial Board to ensure that justice is served, or become a member of Finance Committee where you can have a voice in how your Student Activities $$$$$ is spent.

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**Welcome back- A week late, anyway**

**By Joshua Mullin**

Hey there, loyal readers of TechNews (also freshmen/future loyal readers of TechNews). The Opinion section is here, and I’m ready for you to stir some things up.

For those of you who weren’t here last year (or the previous one either), this is the place where students like you (and I) get to bitch, gripe, complain, or just give your opinion on something IIT-related, not IIT-related, whatever the case may be.

I’m really going to be pushing for writers other than myself this year. This section can get a little old hat when it’s just my rant about fighting the IT bureaucracy day-in and day-out. Don’t get me wrong, I’m still going to do that, but I’ve got plenty of material this year as well, and I hope you do too. By definition, this should be the most exposing, raw section in the paper. Forget that journalistic neutrality thing. Get over here and tell the world how you think Britney Spears’ career is over.

This year’s TechNews staff really excites me. I think every staff member came to our first editorial meeting, which is probably a first. We’ve got an editor-in-chief who understands journalism, won’t censor or pull back articles (within reason), and wants us to be THE authority of IIT-related news. You should be a part of that. Write me some articles. It’s fun, easy, and you get paid for it.

For those of you who are as ancient as I am (I’m a proud super senior), you may remember a little section in previous years’ papers titled “Sex Tech.” This is the single most-asked-for piece of the newspaper that has gone away. Well, this year it’s back, for real this time. I know I promised that last year, but this time it’s legitimate. “Sex Tech” is an advice column where I don’t have to solve problems. In this country, the age at which you are allowed to consume is 21.

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**Letters to the Editor**

Your opinion on something IIT-related, not IIT-related, whatever the case may be.

Have your opinions heard? Submit your letters to the editors.

**Students Senate**

General Assembly - MTCC Auditorium, 1pm- 4:00pm
First Wednesday of each month
September 5th
October 3rd
November 7th
December 5th

Senate Meetings - Stuart room 113, 9-15pm
Alternating Tuesdays
August 28th
September 11th, 25th
October 9th, 23rd
November 6th, 20th
December 4th

SGA Senate Elections
Nominations Open - October 9th
Nominations Close - October 30th
Election Day - November 6th

Interested in getting involved or learning more? We would love to have you on board! Check out our website or shoot us an email.

SGA. What you need.
Quality tattoo artists found at Top Hat Tattoo

By Stephanie Herrera

This article is for anyone looking for a quality, reasonably priced, tattoo done by real artists who guarantee their work.

Top Hat Tattoo is a parlor that just opened up 2 years ago. The shop is owned by Priscilla and managed by Andrew R. Trull who has been tattooing for 13 years now. Originally from North Carolina, Andrew is a pure artist behind the needle. DJ Auld (artist), also from North Carolina, has been tattooing for 2 years and spends most of his time drawing up new ideas in his sketch book. He’ll most likely break the ice with you by asking you to find Waldo in his business card.

The shop is a full custom shop, meaning you can bring in practically anything and they will take the design off of it, size it and color it for you, until it is exactly what you want for free. For any of you who have tattoos, you know that there is usually a $50 charge for something like this. Also, they guarantee their work everywhere except the feet and hands, meaning within a year if you need a touch up, they will do it for free.

The 3 friends I have sent to get something done all walked out happy customers. One had a design in hand and knew exactly what he wanted, another took a design off of a ring and Andrew customized it to look metallic and shaped the shading and size of the tattoo to the shape of the body part that it was located. Just this past weekend my friend had finally decided to get one but she wasn’t quite sure what she wanted. She described what she was looking for and sure enough Andrew drew exactly what she wanted.

If you decided to get a tattoo here in Chicago, don’t go to the main stream places like Tattoo Factory and Jade Dragon. You will just pay for a rude artist who will just raise the price on you after the tattoo is done and their annual half a million dollar advertising bill. TOP HAT TATTOO has the lowest prices in town, they have great artists that will work with you for free and they are the cleanest too.

Here is there info:

**Top Hat Tattoo**
4262 W. Irving Park
Chicago, IL 60604
773.725.7239
[www.tophattattoo.com](http://www.tophattattoo.com)

Artists: DJ Auld and Andrew R. Trull
Hours: Tues. – Thurs., 2pm – 10pm
Fri. – Sat, 12pm – 10pm
Mon. – Sunday, Appt. if necessary

They are just one block west of 90/94 on Irving Park Rd. or you can take the blue line to Irving Park and walk one block west. Tell them Stephanie sent you!

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YouTube of the Week

By Joshua Mullin

Everybody at one point or another has browsed YouTube. I myself have found my way from water skiing squirrels to Nazi propaganda to some of my favorite TV shows, all by using the “related videos” button. Every week, I'll bring you a YouTube video that I thought was particularly good or funny.

This week: **Kitten Surprise!! (how to break up a cat fight)**

This video is adorable and surprising. Without giving away the ending, I can only say that cleaning up the mess in this video wouldn’t be such a big deal because of the hilarious video it created. I know that’s cryptic: Just watch it.

Submit your YouTube of the Week suggestions to Joshua Mullin at mulljos@iit.edu.

If you would like to contribute to the A&E Section or would like to see something else in it... Contact Andres or Colin
delaand1@iit.edu, emchcol@iit.edu
On the Cheap: Ronny’s Original Chicago Steakhouse

By Colin Emch-Wei
A&E EDITOR

A week or two ago, I got stuck in downtown Chicago in the middle of a thunderstorm. The Blue Line was pretty much out of commission, and the buses weren’t moving. And your humble narrator was hungry. My need to travel was kicked to the backseat by my need to seek nourishment, so somehow I found myself at Ronny’s Original Chicago Steakhouse.

You’ve probably seen this place, as it’s in the bottom floor of the Thompson Center and is part of the escalator battery that leads you from the Green Line down to street level. The restaurant is one of the strangest dining experiences I’ve had. Imagine a swanky old-style bar, but cafeteria style. Patrons pick up trays at the entrance, and then place their order at a service counter. One then continues past trays at the entrance, and then place their order style bar, but cafeteria style. Patrons pick up trays at the entrance, and then place their order at a service counter. One then continues past trays at the entrance, and then place their order at a service counter.

Ronny’s offers up a fairly comprehensive steak house menu. T-bone steak, sirloin, chicken, and all the fixings are available to those who wish. Most diners choose some combination of steak and potato, and they look pretty good. I sampled the bread-straw sandwich, simply because I like comparing the various iterations that are found throughout Chicago. My food was cooked to order and served up promptly, and that food draped over the plate. The steak sandwich was served on garlic bread by default, and served with a side of steak fries. I have to admit, it was pretty good...and for eight dollars, I’m not going to complain.

As far as general pricing goes, I didn’t see a single item on the menu that was over twelve dollars. This includes T-bone steak combination platters and 1/4 chicken meals. Needless to say, this place is a darn good deal.

For a unique diner experience that features good food at low prices, take the Green or Red line to Clark and Lake and hit up Ronny’s Original Chicago Steakhouse.

The Almost drummer lead singer

By Stephanie Herrera
A&E EDITOR

Last Thursday The Almost put on a free show at the Logan Square Auditorium. All who were “Florida” with them on purpose could print out tickets to go see there show at 6:30 on a first come first serve basis.

For those of you who don’t know, here is the story behind this band. Underoath is a screaming rock band from Florida. There are 6 guys, 2 guitars, a bass, a lead singer and a keyboard. Aaron had no problem being front and center, his flying microphone and punk-rock side persona that has been in the works for years and they’re pretty damn good. The Almost debut album “Southern Weather” came out in April and they took it on the 2007, 13th annual Warp Tour, until mid-July when Underoath started the tour. This man can do it all, he’s a genius behind the drums and he fits perfect in the spotlight.

The Almost was humble enough to team up with Q101 and put on a free concert for the folks in Chi-town. In a space no bigger than the auditorium at MTCC the band walked through the crowd and walked on stage to about 500 screaming fans. The stage just barely fit a drum set two guitars and a bass player. Aaron had no problem being front and center, his flying microphone and punk-rock side persona that has been in the works for years and they’re pretty damn good. The Almost debut album “Southern Weather” came out in April and they took it on the 2007, 13th annual Warp Tour, until mid-July when Underoath started the tour. This man can do it all, he’s a genius behind the drums and he fits perfect in the spotlight.

Listening to the city

By Andres De La Hoz
A&E EDITOR

Chicago’s impressive fall concert season starts off with a few notable performances.

Friday, Sept. 7th
Akron Family at Logan Square Auditorium.
A crazy swede I know told me his favorite gig ever was seeing Akron Family and getting on stage to play some sort of toy bird that made flute sounds while his friend banged the drums. Such spontaneity and chaos is what defines a show by these increasingly important and interesting band. Their work always changes, from initial traditional folk stylings to free form jamming to indescribable weirdness. Recalling another recent folkie starter, Devendra Banhart, these Brooklynites refuse to be pegged down as anything and seem content to follow their muse wherever it leads them. Currently touring for in support of their 2nd full length, “Love Is Simple”, their show at the Logan Square Auditorium (2539 N. Kedzie Ave.) is one not to miss. You might not be able to climb on stage to play the tambourine with them, but their infectiousness will make you a convert. ($14, 8:30 pm, All Ages)

Saturday, Sept. 8th
Hideout Block Party
The Hideout’s annual Block Party hosts another fine lineup this year, though unlike last year it’s heavily loaded towards one day. Saturday. Headlining is one of our finest, Andrew Bird, giving his final Chicago performance of the year (no Thanksgiving show this year, kiddies). Fresh off the release of Armchair Apocrypha, Bird headlines a day that features other hyped acts like British jokesters Art Brut and idiot savant Dan Deacon. Bird’s definitely the show to catch, however He has a deserved reputation as a masterful live musician, using this platform as an opportunity to show off in ways that his albums merely hint at, exhibiting perfect pop sensibilities as well as experimenting with sound and electronics in impressive ways. And if this doesn’t impress you, the simple fact that Andrew Bird is a great violinist should. While his music is baroque indie pop in its CD form, its live form often takes a more classical approach as he goes off in flights of fancy and shows off his considerable skill. If you’ve never seen this local hero, now’s your perfect chance.
($20, noon, All Ages)
One major program the school is also excited about is TGIF which is a seminar for freshmen to help orient them to the university, develop important skills, and get the most out of their education. This also provides a social avenue for the students to connect with their class and exchange ideas.

IIT is making huge efforts in ensuring that students get the best out of their college experience right from the moment they step in and is constantly looking into ways to improve these new ventures so that in the future so that all students can be well acclimatized.

When asked to describe the freshman class, Mary noted that they are going to expect a lot, take initiative and be willing to help each other out. Her advice to the freshman class is know that you are not alone, someone is always willing to help you out, look around. Also, have fun and go to class.

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Continued from front
Student Orientation and Welcome Week

Photos by Mindy Sherman and Sarah Bowers

If you would like to contribute to the Campus News Section or would like to see something else in it, contact Jide at okebaba@iit.edu.

Already attending campus events?

Earn money telling us about them.

To express your interest, contact Jide at okebaba@iit.edu.
China says one child policy helps protect climate

By Abhishek Gundugurti

Vienna, Austria: The most populated country with a fifth of the world population, China has announced recently that it would fight global warming (global climate change) by enforcing a new policy, the one-child policy. But delegates at the United Nations climate change talks in Vienna said that this policy is not likely to be a favorable policy there partly because of the opposition by the Catholic Church and some developing nations trying to increase their population. Yvo de Boer the head of the UN Change Secretariat said that “population is clearly an important factor”. The current world population is estimated to be 6.6 billion and estimates say the numbers can go up to 9 billion by the year 2050.

The UN talks, going on from August 27th to 31st, are trying to plan a new deal to combat climate change after 2012. Rejecting criticism that it does too little to confront climate change, China says that its population is now 1.3 billion against 1.6 billion if it had not imposed tough birth control in the late 1970s. The number of births avoided the entire population of the United States. A senior Foreign ministry official in the Chinese delegation, Su Wei, said “This is only an illustration of the actions we have taken.” He also told Reuters that Heijing was not arguing that this policy was a model for others to follow. He said the 300 million births avoided would prevent 1.3 billion tons of carbon dioxide in 2005. Of course, this number is based on the average world per capital emissions of 4.2 tons. Across the borders in England, the incoming head of the Science Museum in London, Chris Rapley said that “Population has not been taken seriously enough in the climate debate.” He also said he favors a greater drive for education regarding unwanted births and population growth.

Tougher birth control runs into opposition from the Roman Catholic Church. Some of the developing nations also favor high birth rates and also have more capita emissions that some rich nations. From the United States, the chief US negotiator Harlan Watson said that the high immigration to the United States makes it harder to slow rising emissions. “It’s simple arithmetic,” he said. “If you look at mid-century, Europe will be at 1990 levels of population while ours will be nearing 30 percent above 1990 levels. So population does matter,” he said.

Source: Reuters

Tennessee neutron accelerator sets new record

By Abhishek Gundugurti

In a $1.4 billion dollar facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee the Spallation Neutron Source facility has achieved and established a new mark as the world’s most powerful accelerator-based source of neutrons for scientific research. The announcement came Thursday that the facility’s neutron beam research 183 kilowatts on August 11th, which is 20 more kilowatts than the previous record held by Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in England. The officials in Oak Ridge also said that their facility has been designed to produce up to 10 times more neutrons than now.

This is good news for researchers as more neutrons and neutron scattering means more research can be done on materials and improvements can be made. General Motors, for example, is hoping to use the research done at SNS to develop thermoelectric materials to power its vehicle’s electrical systems using the engine exhaust heat.

The Lab Director at SNS, Dr. Thom Mason compared SNS to a “very fancy microscope for seeing how atoms are put together, one at a time, in order to make some material that has some desired property. It might be a protein. It might be some magnetic material.” (source: AP News) Dr. Mason explained the potential of the SNS facility to an audience which included Tennessee’s congressional delegation.

One of the representatives, Bart Gordon said “We talk about responding to climate change and energy dependence, you are going to have to have lighter, stronger composite materials to be able to accomplish that. These are the types of things that you do with this research.” Mr. Gordon is also the chairman of the House Science and Technology Committee.

The SNS facility is only a year old, having been opened in April 2006. It is still under development and is one year away from being at full capacity.

Dr. Mason added that most of the research done there would be open to the scientific community and only about 5% will be proprietary. He also said this research won’t be too far from the marketplace where real materials will go into real products that they hope to manufacture in real factories in Tennessee and elsewhere.

Source: Associated Press (http://www.ap.org)
Lady Hawks show no mercy against Iowa Wesleyan

By Stephanie Herrera  
SPORTS EDITOR

The first goal was scored by Davenport in the 55th minute. In the 75th minute Julia Campana answered back with the assist from Amy Bouquard, but before the game was over neither team could take the match.

The Lady Hawks showed character under pressure going into overtime. Freshman Angie Skaar finished the match with a “golden-goal” to take the match assisted by Kim Grubisch.

Coach Peacock had this to say about the game. “Julia’s goal got us back in; she was fantastic for us tonight. That goal gave us the momentum for the win. We showed a great deal of character to come back from a goal behind, especially as we weren’t playing well at all. We played badly but got the win, we’re still learning.”

Lauren McClelland played 95 minutes and controlled the game with 9 saves. Next home match is this Friday, September 7th at 7pm against University of Rio Grande.

Hawk’s win 2-0 in Iowa, fall short in Tuesdays match up

By Stephanie Herrera  
SPORTS EDITOR

Wesleyan didn’t stand a chance against Illinois Tech last Saturday. The Hawk’s only allowed four goal attempts to their thirteen. Senior Steve Booher and freshman Gracee Port shared the score and sophomore goalie Michael Tilatti had 3 saves.

The men’s soccer team played aggressively, but fell short in last Tuesday’s match up against Davenport. Senior Pedro Lima scored the only goal in the 57th minute to try to revive the Hawks, but it wasn’t enough to Davenports 2 goals early in the game. Senior Goalie, Nathan Woods, kept it a close game with 5 saves.

Cross Country takes 3rd and 5th in Elmhurst College Early Bird Invite

By Stephanie Herrera  
SPORTS EDITOR

For the men Senior Dan Oh out performed 170 runners in the 6K run on Friday. He held a steady pace the whole race and placed 3rd with a time of 17:50. Top 5 runners for the men were Dan (senior), Ed Aramayo (freshman), Wes Villafobos (freshman), Oba Vincent (sophomore), Nate Gates (senior).

The women, Freshman Stephanie Lucas led the way finishing 13th of 181 runners with a time of 15:48. The top 5 ladies, Stephanie Lucas (freshman), Liz Blitz (sophomore), Brooke Jeffcoat (sophomore) Beth Nielsen (sophomore) and Lisa Nielsen (sophomore), finished within the first 43 runners, earning them enough points placing them in 3rd place overall.

THE UNUSUAL SPORT OF THE WEEK: HURLING

By Stephanie Herrera  
SPORTS EDITOR

This sport is a competition between two teams of five in which they throw up into a trash bin until it’s full. The fastest recorded time ever is 20:13. “Don’t believe a word I just said; that sport would be totally disgusting if it were true.”

Actually hurling is a sport similar to field hockey. It is popular in Ireland, played in the summer. The hurling championship is played in Dublin around the middle of September and is called the All Ireland Final. It consists of two teams of 15 people. Each player needs a hurley (stick) and the game requires a sliotar (ball). The object of the game is to score goals in an H shaped goal at each end of the field. The cross bar is one point and below is three. The game is played in 35 minute halves and the team with the most points wins. Now, for the fun part, you can tackle in this sport our protective gear is to your discretion.

Legal tackling consist of shoulder thrusting and hurley clashing, as for little cups, that is not allowed. If a foul is committed, a foul shot is taken.

It is very similar to soccer only you must raise the ball in the air and hit either toward the goal or another teammate to score. The ball may not be hit off the ground.

For instance, if you were doing this with a soccer ball it would be as if you drop kicked the ball instead of setting up for a foul shot.
Point/Counterpoint: Evolutionary Theory

By Joe Kaiser

Point: You evolutionists would sound like idiots if this were Donkey Kong Country.

So your argument is that species mutate and evolve from one another based on survival of the fittest, that gradual genetic mutations are selected based on whether they allow the species to better survive some environmental barrier to its survival or improves its chances of reproducing. Now, how would you go about explaining those bouncing humanoid lizards?

Yeah, I know. The bouncing improves their chances of survival by making them less vulnerable to predators. What I’m asking is - what kind of genetic need allowed for a race of lizardmen who haphazardly jump into seemingly bottomless pits?

It seems like a bit of a stretch to say that it’s some sort of pit that kills monkeys but not lizardmen, so I’m gonna guess that some “genetic architect” was responsible for putting those lizards there. Not natural selection.

Don’t get me started on those cheeky armadillos.

And here’s another thing. What’s all this garbage with the mine carts? These chimps have mine cart rides, airplanes, even some kind of bizarre lighting system at Stop & Go Station that they use to affect apparently photosensitive clay lizardmen that are otherwise undeferred hulking pillars of stone. Obviously, there’s some evidence of some sort of civilization, even one that had found practical uses for oil (it can be lit on fire and be made an obnoxious barrier to meddling monkeys).

So who created these mine carts, who refined this oil? Obviously not humans. After all, if the ability to use tools was developed “evolutionarily,” then these humans should have dominated the island. Instead, they’re nowhere to be found. You could place the argument that they had to have left the island - but when? Not too long ago, because the mine carts are still running smoothly (and it’s a jungle environment with a lot of precipitation, so we know that rust would be a huge concern). Even more so, the oil is still burning and the monkey-controlled airplanes are still running. But if it were that recent, could that honestly be the only remnants of their civilization? Where’s the carcasses of a once-thriving civilization?

Oh, you say, the machines must have been developed by the apes. They’re smart enough to go on a quest to defeat evil throughout the mountains, battling genetic abominations such as huge bees and beavers. Yeah, why wouldn’t it have been them?

If you subscribe to that, you’re subscribing to the theory of de-evolution, which states that at a certain point the dumbest in a society proliferate and lead to a dumbening of the race. Why? Well, smartypants, why wouldn’t the monkeys be using their tools to fight? It would be much more efficient if they even had so much as a hammer or a club with which to fend off attackers. Instead, they’re restrained to the occasional barrel toss or already trained animal (and don’t get me started on those). If they’re smart enough to domesticate animals they ought to be smart enough to form at least some semblance of an agricultural society.

So who else could have developed the glimmers of an colonial society on the island? Maybe it was the lizardmen! Yeah, that’s it, they learned how to walk on their hind legs and some of them wear hats and take steroids!

So you’re saying they have enough spatial reasoning to develop a system of mine carts but not enough to keep from falling into holes, not unlike the ones beneath the mine cart track. I’m totally buying that.

Plus, the lighting system is used to oppress the superbeasts of Stop & Go Station. What kind of Electric Avenue is Donkey Kong Country?

Most damningly, your evolutionary theory doesn’t hold water because if evolution were true there would only be unstoppable giant bees on the island, as they have no natural predators. QED, intelligent design.

Counterpoint: There is evolution in Pokemon.

Seriously, anyone who has put a Magikarp into the first slot of their party and then every battle switched him out the first round in order to level him up because he only has splash for like the first fifteen levels and that doesn’t do anything literally but you really need Gyarados because it’s the only viable late-game Pokemon that can learn Surf if you don’t want a water starter or to muck up your starter with an HM and Blastoise sucks anyway will back me up.

By Joe Kaiser

THE SLIPSTICK

TECHNEWS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2007

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Hello Sudoku

by Randall Munroe

SHOPPING TEAMS

BAD:
LETS GET THAT ONE

GOOD:
LETS GET THAT ONE

VERY BAD:
I THINK THE OTHER ONE MIGHT BE A BETTER DEAL...

I THINK OUR MAIN PROBLEM IS OUR UNCLEAR DEFINITION OF VALUE.

2 TAKES LATER

UNDER THAT ONE.

THAT IS NOT YOUR MAIN PROBLEM!

skcd.com
By Joe Kaiser

The Slipstick

Romantic Comedies,
and why I watched them

Sliding Doors (1998)

What it's about: Gwyneth Paltrow is fired from her job and goes to take the London Underground home. The movie splits into two storylines - in one she catches the train, in one she misses it, and her life takes divergent paths from there. In one of the timelines she gets a haircut so that you know which storyline is the bizarre one.

Why I watched it: It came on one cable station when I was 13 or something. Ignore the plot about it being boring and about relationships - it's like a movie version of a choose-your-own-adventure book! Except instead of making dozens of choices, you only make one choice. And there are only two endings. And you have to do both of them. It doesn't matter, though. I read "Give Yourself Goosebumps: Escape from the Carnival of Horrors" so many times that I can probably get through to "the good" ending on my first go, all these years later.

Saving Grace: While writing this I remembered Run Lola Run, which is like Sliding Doors only a lot better. Plus, there are THREE endings.

While You Were Sleeping (1995)

What it's about: Sandra Bullock is a fare collector on the Chicago L. Every day she sells a token to a commuter who she has a crush on. One day that commuter gets mugged and pushed onto the tracks. Sandra Bullock saves him and goes with him (now comatose) to the hospital, and through a world "I was going to marry him" a nurse mistakenly believes she is his fiance. Hilarious misunderstandings follow.

Why I watched it: As far as I was concerned, as a pre-teen in the mid to late 90s there were four Chicago movies. Ferris Bueller, the Blues Brothers, Home Alone, and While You Were Sleeping. There was only one left to watch, and that was the one. I spent a lazy summer day watching it on cable. As far as its use of Chicago goes, it wasn't as solid as, say, Early Edition.

Saving Grace: In one of the most hilariously unexpected scenes in film history, in an establishing scene outside an apartment building a kid rides by on his bike, slips on the ice and falls on his face. Always good to break up Sandra Bullock's neuroses with a person who is actually ___.

Pun of the Week

25. Japanese cartoon art (5)
24. Preserve (3)
23. Greek letter (3)
20. Wind up (3)
19. Atom particle (7)
18. Be in session (3)
17. Surgical cuts (9)
16. Pitfall (4)
15. Cooking fat (4)
14. Translate (9)
13. Mexican Christmas plants (11)
12. Incline (4)
11. Aid in crime (4)
10. Heavy road-leveler (11)
9. Muscle overuse ailment (1,1,1)
8. Introduce (7)
7. Actress Ward (4)
6. Aristotle’s teacher (5)
5. ___ von Bismarck (4)
4. Detroit’s county (5)
3. ___ we there yet?” (3)
2. Germ-free (7)
1. Pandemonium (5)

Across
1. “See you later!” (4)
2. “Back in the ___” (4)
3. “Raiders of the Lost ___” (3)
4. “___ we there yet?” (3)
5. Gloves-mittener (4)
6. Preserve (3)
7. Air resistance on car (4)
8. Introduction (7)
9. Dug up (5)
10. Transcribe (9)
11. Greased (5)
12. Whirl (4)
13. Cuban Christmas plants (11)
14. Goes on and on (5)
15. Ear-related (4)
16. Under the weather (3)
17. Advantages (11)
18. Deli sandwich (4)
19. War on Poverty agcy. (1,1,1)
20. “Raiders of the Lost ___” (3)
22. Hanoi’s river (3)
23. “___ we there yet?” (3)
24. Preserve (3)
25. “Back in the ___” (4)
26. Kwik-E-Mart owner on “The Simpsons” (3)
27. Born (3)
28. Muscle overuse ailment (1,1,1)
29. “Raiders of the Lost ___” (3)
30. Hanoi’s river (3)
31. “__ ___ ___ ___ ___” (5)
32. Circular coral reefs (6)
33. “___ ___ ___ ___ ___” (5)
34. Towards a higher level (7)
35. Air resistance on car (4)
36. Whirl (4)
37. Slightly wet (5)
38. Standard (3)
39. Blame (3)
40. Circular coral reefs (6)
41. Whisky factory (10)
42. loaf (3)
43. Disorders (11)
44. Ear-related (4)
45. Air resistance on car (4)
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By Joe Kaiser

Pun of the Week

Have you heard the new album by Zombie De La Soul? They're selling it on the Xbox Live Marketplace. I think it's called “3 Feet High and Dead Rising”
SOVA flat sheet
$2.99/ea
A quiet roommate that still livens up the room.

KVART wall/clamp spotlight
$4.99
A bright roommate that loves to illuminate biochemistry textbooks.

KASSETT magazine box with lid
$14.99/2pk
As obsessive about looking after comic books as you are.

SKUBB hanging storage
$4.99/ea
Finally, a roommate that helps you clean your room.

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Stop by the IKEA restaurant and have some meatballs and maybe even a Caesar salad. It's more affordable than stocking your fridge and having your roommate eat all of your food.