The Communications committee will hold its first meeting of the semester at 8:15 in the SGAs office on Feb. 29. All interested students are welcome to participate in the Communications, Academic Affairs, and Student Life committees. There is an application process for the Finance committee. After the learning was done, there was an orange-eating contest and a trek over to Keating to watch the men’s basketball team play. A few of the Student Life committee’s recent accomplishments: the hiring of an additional Nurse practitioner and addition of evening hours for the Student Health Center, the Public Safety Walks, 21 defibrillators around campus, student/faculty socials, a computer lounge in the HUB basement, coffee and donuts in the library.

LA Scholarship: tips and info

By Kevin Franke

LA NEWS WRITER

A hard copy of the Fall application is due Monday, February 18th. However, the scholarship team will still accept applications electronically. Hard copies are also available in the Leadership Academy office in Life Science, room 908. The deadline is April 1st. Contact the Professor (on the student form) to whom you have not had significant interaction. If you don’t know anyone who is not familiar with the Leadership Academy, here is some information you should know:

The Leadership Academy is comprised of a group of undergraduate IIT students who exemplify the characteristics of successful leaders. New scholars are chosen on a yearly basis through a two-step application process and are awarded a fellowship upon their acceptance into the program. The first step in this process is a written application consisting of objective personal information (Major, GPA, leadership experience, etc.) and subjective essay questions.

These forms can be downloaded and printed out from the website leadership.iit.edu as a PDF and submitted electronically. Hard copies are also available in the Leadership Academy office in Life Science, room 908 as the basement. TIP #1: This form is moderately long, so give yourself enough time to complete it. It will be easy to see who has thrown their application together hastily at the last minute, so spend some quality time with the application—it’s worth it.

The written applications will be scored online by the IIT of the Leadership Academy. Key features of the application are: GPA, leadership experience (on and off campus), involvement in organizations and teams, and participation in leadership development programs. You are encouraged to include any and all applicable information from high school, IIT, and the workplace. TIP #2: If you have any further questions about the Leadership Academy, feel free to talk to me or any of the other scholars on campus. We are here to help!

Senate Retreat: retraining our representatives

By Linda Goldstein

LAYOUT EDITOR

On Saturday 26 January, the Student Government Association (SGA) will host its Senate Retreat. The incoming senators (there were supposed to be 42) met in Wishnick Hall at nine in the morning, which made them pliable and easy to direct, although dreadfully in need of caffeine. The VP, Adam Bain, read the Senate Creed, which is “We, the student senates of the Illinois Institute of technology, reaffirm our responsibility to loyally represent the student body and effectively improve the quality of student life.” This assures that no senator will ever be able to forget the name of our university.

The retreat included team building activities, an introduction to the committees that they could join (Communications, Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Finance), an introduction on the rules by which Senate sessions are conducted (Roberts Rules Of Order, used widely in the USA), and a test on the rules of order in which the SGA President threw candy at people who got the right answers.

The top scorers on the written applications will be invited to participate in the next phase of selection, the LEAD (Leadership Experience for Assessment and Development) process. Based on the student form, students will gain acceptance into the Leadership Academy and awarded with a full tuition scholarship (while the website does say ten awards will be given it is not official the number is nine). TIP #1: (the BIG one). If you are at all interested in the Leadership Academy, even slightly, then pick up an application and fill it out! Try your hand at it and see what it takes you. The desire to stand out among other applicants is likely to give you motivation to become involved in activities and organizations on campus, which can be a very rewarding experience!

Another key component to the written application is the faculty/staff nomination form. While the written student form is due Friday, February 8th, the faculty/staff form is to be submitted not later than February 15th. This form is a questionnaire about the student that the faculty/staff member fills out and submits directly to the Leadership Academy. TIP #3: Contact a faculty or staff member with whom you have much interaction and whom you believe will give a positive and honest recommendation about you. And, of course, talk to this person ahead of time! Give them at least a week to finish the form and submit it. Make sure to follow up with them, but don’t be pushy.

A Renaissance of IIT

By Raymond Ballard

TECHNEWS WRITER

The Illinois Institute of Technology is growing at an impressive rate, and along with it, progress in the community. Only a decade ago, IIT’s southern border at 35th street looked upon the Chicago Housing Authority’s Stateway Gardens. The name Stateway Gardens sounds like a happy and peaceful living environment, but it doesn’t take an aerospace engineer to figure out that putting 3000 low-income, poorly educated Chicagoans in the same badly managed and under funded CHA high-rise housing will cause a disaster worthy of a memorial. In reality, placing the city’s poor in these housing units was a way of imprisoning the poor, largely African American population into the State Street Corridor in the 1950’s and 60’s. After Mayor Richard J. Daley’s questionable deal with the McCormick Place, the projects east of the vehicular river in 1961 northwest of IIT, and the Dan Ryan Expressway (used as a concrete wall) between the mayor’s home of Bridgeport and the projects east of the vehicular river in 1962, poor blacks (and IIT) were effectively cut off from the rest of the city.

Even Martin Luther King Jr.’s Chicago Freedom Movement in the late 1960’s found itself baffled and astonished by the hatred and racism in all levels of Chicago’s corrupt government, its housing authority, and in its communities. IIT Professor William Grimshaw, a consultant for Mayor Harold Washington in the 1980’s, is a length explained in his book, Bitter Fruit (University of Chicago Press, 1992) that when Mayor Daley successfully avoided the label of evil (that governors in southern states had attained) by slowly appeasing the minimal demands of King over four years, Daley had staled the possibility of blacks acquiring raw equality in the declining caraza of Southside Chicago.

Four decades later, Jesse Jackson, MLK’s protégé in Chicago, continues to fight for civil rights in Chicago, with small progress made for the forgotten Southside poor. With the failures of the Chicago public housing projects, and others across the nation, the federal government decided to take action. In 1993 the federal government created the Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere (HOPE VI). HOPE VI provided funding for cities to replace their defunct and crime-plagued public-housing units with mixed-income units. The demolitions of these units began with projects Cabrini-Green in 1996, Robert Taylor Homes in 1997, and finally in 2000, Stateway Gardens. In 2007, 14 years after the initial HOPE VI funds were provided, the demolition of Stateway Gardens was complete, and the crime and poverty of the project area relocated elsewhere.

During the late 20th Century, Illinois Tech was rumored to be the oasis in the desert, but things were far from perfect regardless of the neighboring Stateway Gardens. Unknown to most current students, declining enrollment, financial deficits, and a terrible community environment led IIT’s leadership to consider leaving the Southside Chicago campus and its Mies van der Rohe architecture behind in...
By Karina Powell

First Robotics Champions

Picture this: The intensity builds as the players prepare to face off. Their pounding hearts and pumping adrenaline is spiked, and you can almost hear their racing hearts about to burst as the adrenaline surges through the crowd. After months of physically and mentally challenging preparation, it all comes down to 2 minutes, 15 seconds on the field. This is their moment of truth. This scene is repeated in over 40 arenas as more than 1,500 teams from all over the world compete with the hopes of making it to the National Championship and being recognized as the team that embodies the goal of the organization: “Inspirating greater levels of respect and honor for science and technology.”

This exciting scene being played out worldwide is the annual competition of FIRST Robotics. FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an organization dedicated to promoting the participation of students in primary and secondary education in robotics. FIRST provides a foundation centralized on “Gracious Professionalism” with a dedicated support network of volunteers and mentors committed to coaching and promoting the next generation of engineers and scientists, but most importantly celebrating the intelligence of youthful, inquisitive minds.

FIRST originated with 28 high school robotics teams in New Hampshire in 1992 and has since grown to encompass all grade levels of students, ages 6-18, all over the globe. Reaching over 150,000 students, FIRST serves levels of students, ages 6-18, all over the globe. It is immensely exciting to watch these teams of robots work in unison on a playing field half the size of a basketball court. Their handling, formation, and function on the playing field are orchestrated by the team and together achieving victories allowing them to proceed on to subsequent competitions until the final six teams stand poised to engage in the final battle. In addition to the design and fabrication challenges involved in constructing the actual robot, during the first 15 seconds of play, the robot is completely autonomous, which provides a programming challenge beyond the difficulty already presented by radio frequency control!

The most fascinating aspect of FIRST and the 150,000+ robots that has reached the 15th year is the emphasis on high-quality work and respecting the value of individuals and the community. There is always a desire to walk away from a competition with a trophy, it is widely understood that’s not what they’re there; it is just as important to incorporate giving back, sharing ideas on helping others and volunteering to achieve the potential that is already demonstrated by the students and the volunteers in and keeps them coming back for years.

This entire educational experience is dependent on the dedication of thousands of volunteers. Some of these volunteers are professional engineers or engineering students but the diversity of backgrounds of the mentors and volunteers that allow everyone to work in synchronicity. In addition to the science and technology related knowledge that students gain, they also develop a respect for those who contribute their time and energy for the benefit of the entire FIRST organization. The volunteers, who are the foundation on which this incredible organization rests, provide an invaluable service to the students who depend on them, they also gain confidence and knowledge that would be difficult to find elsewhere.

So why is volunteering so important? Here are just a few reasons:

1. Volunteering helps to build and better your community. If we want to live in a better world, we must actively participate in that building process. We have to work towards that goal since it’s not going to happen autonomously and volunteering is one way to help our community move toward a better tomorrow.

2. Volunteering is a symbiotic activity. Volunteering with such efforts as FIRST Robotics or the IIT Days of Service, will not only give you an opportunity to share your knowledge with others, it will offer you a chance to expand your mind and knowledge base.

3. You can learn something new. The experience gained and lessons learned from volunteering is invaluable knowledge that would be difficult to find elsewhere.

4. Volunteering will offer you a sense of accomplishment and naturally help to boost self-confidence and self-esteem. The sense of satisfaction derived from helping another is unequivocal.

5. Volunteering is a great networking and opportunity. It will afford you the opportunity to meet people that you would otherwise not interact with and make connections that will further you in every aspect of your life and career.

6. There is an emotional and visceral association to volunteering that a monetary donation just can’t duplicate. Volunteering your time and energy makes you feel good about yourself in a way that writing a check just can’t replicate.

7. Volunteering will bring about social change. By getting involved, finding something that you enjoy and enthusiastically committing to, you can offer a sense of satisfaction in bringing others to contribute to a cause. It can strengthen a cause to exhibit such dedicated, unwavering commitment to an organization in which you truly believe.

8. Volunteering is an exceptional way to repay kindness. If you have experienced the generosity and compassion of others, volunteering is a great way to reciprocate and spread the goodwill.

9. For fun! There is nothing like the complete satisfaction of putting your team designed and built to come life on the playing field and outperform the other ‘bots! It’s important to find a volunteer activity that you find fun and rewarding because of the sense of satisfaction it will bring to you. You will find yourself wanting to volunteer and coming back for more.

There are resources available online that can provide information on how to get involved. Helix, FIRST Robotics, but many other very worthy causes. Considering that there are a large number of engineers at IIT, you might consider getting involved in an organization such as FIRST Robotics where you can share your knowledge as well as gain some valuable contacts, skills and experience. Feel free to visit the online website (www.usfirst.org) or contact me if you’re interested in getting involved. FIRST welcomes non-technical volunteers. Positions are so broad reaching that people from all majors and walks of life can participate and contribute in valuable ways.

If you believe that your volunteer interests lie elsewhere, you can utilize the Service-Learning Division of the Office of Student Activities. You can either stop by and talk to someone (room 221 in the MTCC) or visit the website for more information (service.iit.edu).

Remember, this is your community and it’s important to find a volunteer activity that fits this place. No one has your individual talents; share them with the world. Pay it forward.

Get out there and volunteer!

Volunteer positions are so broad reaching that people from all majors and walks of life can participate and contribute in valuable ways.

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How the other side eats: UIC East Cafe

By Jonathan Mikesell

Like us, UIC has a Sodexo-run food service, and you may wonder if there’s a difference. There are many, but nonetheless the two programs show great resemblance.

The University of Illinois in Chicago has 3 distinct main cafeterias, one in the east student center, one in the west student center, and a third nestled among dorm rooms in the James Stukel Towers, not to mention 3 smaller cafes, a convenience store, and some resident franchises like Sharoo and Sbarro. I went to the east student cafeteria, which students there said was the largest of the 3 main ones, for a Saturday brunch.

The eating environment was quite a bit ‘warmer’ in feel than our own, and the effect in large part to the yellow lights, both recessed and in the form of electric lanterns hanging from the ceiling. The lower ceiling helped a sensation of coziness that our commons lack.

The room carried sound much less than the IIT commons, but four televisions on the periphery constantly filled the area with the sound of music videos at normal conversational volume, which was both a blessing and a curse. Stocked napkin dispensers were omnipresent, which is a good thing, though the employees were not as diligent in cleaning the furniture as ours; I sat in a chair laced with grape jelly and the chair next to me was liberally sprinkled with ground beef, which was especially disconcerting.

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Did J&R steal my Christmas, or UPS?

By Kirti Prakash

Starting Thanksgiving, I searched the Internet frantically for a sale on MP3 players. I decided to gift one for my sister in India by sending it through a friend of mine who was visiting India for a couple of weeks before Christmas. As if the deliberation on what to gift was not hard enough, I now had the daunting task of finding the right brand, which would reach her within a week and features that will fit my modest budget of $60.

On weekends, I called the Tech savvy friends I had in India for help. They helped me filter through the numerous brands of MP3 players which offered a wide range of features. The winner was Sundisk Zx2i 3GB which was a reasonably good product of Sundisk.

Once I was almost certain of the price I wished to spend within my budget. This involved sacrificing 6 days on the internet trying to find the best deal then available. Most deals looked great but when shopping and taxes were included the price looked not so attractive.

Finally an offer from J&R electronics based in NY ended my search. It offered the MP3 player at around $56 with shipping included. This made me feel like I found a diamond mine in Africa! I quickly filled in my credit card details and then was happy to note that the order will be shipped in 2-3 business days by UPS ground which would reach me in maximum one week. This still left one week for me to load my sister’s favorite songs and send it to India. I was happy with myself.

After two days I got a message from J&R by email stating that the tracking number. A snowy week passed quickly and yet there was no sign of my MP3 Player. Then I got suspicious and tried to call the guys to find out what best can be done. The UPS customer care was answered by an automated voice service and offered me no option which was remotely close to my problem.

Not knowing what to do, I was silent and then trusted the ups agent. As usual, the agent answered politely with an under current of boiling frustration. She went through all the tracking details and made a correction to the address and assured me the package would be delivered the next day. I was smart enough to enroll for an email notification service offered by UPS and update me of my package status. The day happened to be a Friday and, with the entire universe conspiring against me, I finally got a notification in my email saying that the package was delivered! Obviously, I did not receive it. So I checked who signed for it. It turned out some guy called ART GOFF did the honours. I was sure no ART GOFF resided in Carman Garway Apartments because of obvious reasons. There was stuck all weekend as the GOFF was a known and cheddar omelette was practically identical to ours in taste, though UIC doles out more for each serving. Likewise, the oranges were of a familiar type, and were a bit unripe. The cupcakes showed that they had really any sweetness or spice taste: they were like cold, wet mush. The waffles were very disappointing, for despite appealing looks they were practically grain in form and flavor. The brownie was every bit as good as ours and they may even share more of their recipe, but these were less sticky in the mouth.

The final verdict: UIC has a food service comparable, if slightly inferior to our own, but they enjoy comparatively low prices.

I refused to give up and tried talking to some other representative.

Before every employee in J&R and UPS got to hear my voice on the phone, both parties (J&R and UPS) kind of understood what happened; in their defense, they started the blame game. UPS said J&R goofed up and J&R said UPS screwed up. As I spoke high up the ranks in the customer care of UPS, they figured out J&R goofed up. When I started talking about the inconvenience this issue caused me during my finals week, UPS bluntly said we are sorry and at this point all we can do is initiate a tracer and we will investigate. Essentially in lawman’s words UPS meant they will track the package delivered at its wrong address and send it back to me if they find it. All I could hear was this would take 1-2 business days-loud and clear. This left me furious and I was not ready to take this crap because apart from the delay there was also the possibility of my parcel being opened by Mr. GOFF. Suddenly my little MP3 player looked like a Pandora’s Box. Looking at my unemployment situation, UPS plainly said since I was not their customer (technically, it’s J&R according to UPS) they will not yield. This left me nowhere with my money gone, package not received and all the trouble talking sense to the customer service agents while they put me on hold for ages on dumb music that sounded so irritating, my Christmas stood ruined.

As the J&R customer service, I found them most indifferent and all they had to say was that they were investigating it by initiating a tracer (by UPS). Then they asked me to ship another mp3 player and charge me for it and if investigation was in my favor I would be credited. None of the options meant the piece would reach my sister or at least a consolation for the distraction during a stressful finals week. I now am left with the question of who stole my Christmas. As said by UPS, since I am not their customer, no matter who goofed up, J&R is responsible and hence thanks to J&R for stealing my Christmas.
By Rahul Dronamraju

I consider myself somewhat of a neocor, but by only some convoluted dynamic of environment and genetics! While I’m not a card-carrying member, if there is such a thing, it warmed my heart to read of the announcement! Francis Fukuyama has distanced himself from the movement. As a part of my research for a Political Science paper for Professor Fukuyama, I was recently warned of the world’s end. “The End of History?” written 1989, and I realized what a load of crook it was (http://www.wocjones.com/eoh.htm). I wish I could become famous for writing such drivel.

Besides the oft-quoted gem on the idea of “Western Liberal Democracy” being the ideological epiphanic of mankind and its universal applicability, he particularly provoked my ideological notions when he picked on something I love dearly; the struggle for Indian Independence. As a politically aware man he did not do this outright, but still made a statement that illustrated to me that he certainly isn’t qualified to write about democracy when he did not have a fundamental knowledge of the process through which the world’s biggest democracy came into being.

With the fall of the Reich chancellery as well as the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki killed this ideology on the level of consciousness as well as morale of Germany and Japan. The consequences spawned by the German and Japanese examples like the Peronist movement in Argentina or Subhas Chandra Bose’s Indian National Army were a direct result of this fall.

Pro-Fascist movement...Subhas Chandra Bose...Indian National Army...What a phrase! I had to re-read that...

While it is not my place as a lowly undergraduate student, with little knowledge of the dynamics of political science, to judge one of the famous for their work in the field - I do know my Indian history very well. I’ll spare you the details on the man, who was as great an individual as Gandhi and as detrimental to the British. But, I will tell you about the process India got its Independence and why it owes it all to the Indian National Army.

Bose gathered all these malnourished people, a rag tag band of Indian soldiers in the British Army and the Navy felt that it was a travesty that Britain was not treating these soldiers as POWs or giving them a fair trial. So they demanded for the British. All those who were captured were declared traitors and were going to be hanged.

The Indian soldiers in the British Army and the Navy felt that it was a travesty that Britain was not treating these soldiers as POWs or giving them a fair trial. So they demanded for the British. All those who were captured were declared traitors and were going to be hanged. After all, what students want most from staff is to feel that they care about their needs and their futures. Summed up, what students seek in a perfect campus department is excellent customer service, which many departments seem to recognize and are working hard to improve. Customer service and the knowledge that departments personally care about every student need.

And finally, Facilities is incredibly flexible. Students don’t like uptight rules, or any rules that matter, especially when there needs to be exceptions. Facilities seems to understand the overall purpose of rules and routines, to best serve the community, but if a rule does not positively affect a student’s life, it needs to change. Facilities doesn’t “go with the flow.” Director Mike Lynch doesn’t seem to believe in saying “it can’t be done.” Instead, he goes about finding unique ways to make it happen. The frisbee and Frisbee Golf courses are two obvious examples where something that had never been thought possible was suddenly present. The Homecoming Carnival organized by Union Board and supported by the Greek organizations Alpha Sigma Alpha, Kappa Phi Delta, and Delta Tau Delta required a great deal of effort on behalf of Facilities. Without them, the largest on-campus event of over 1200 student attendees would not be possible. A flexible department that works to improve every student need, regardless of the traditional standard.

Congratulations Facilities for taking the lead in quality customer service, innovative thinking, and dedication to student needs. We certainly appreciate your time, your service, and the mark you leave here.

Thank you, Mr. Fukuyama for leaving the neoconservative movement. Your credibility will not be missed.

By Rahul Dronamraju

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Bailey, built in 1955 by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, one of the 20th century’s most influential architects, is now a Graduate student apartment and one of the best choices for Graduate students. A perfect choice for various reasons best known only to the ever complaining students living there. Apart from the minor problems of occasional roaches and bugs it does stand tall in giving graduate students the best deal possible on campus - maximum room per head, low rent (including utilities and internet), proximity to classes and competitive security. The rent per head per month with utilities, internet, maintenance and security would come anywhere between 240 - 410$ (per head per month) depending on housing choice ranging from a three bedroom (6 max occupancy) to a studio (2 max occupancy) respectively. The graduate student community of IIT is very diverse and mostly international. Very few graduate students are supported by scholarships/TA/RA/oncampus jobs which will if they get lucky earn them a paltry sum of max 400-600$ per month (on an average). This is barely enough to meet their monthly rent and food expenses.

Now consider this proposal of renovating Bailey. Mostly the exterior is retained as it is of architectural importance for obvious reasons explained above while the interior flooring, walls, common areas and all stand renovated and viola! here we have brand new furnished apartments. Oh how I would love to live and die there but the irony is I can do neither. It costs a whooping 650-1175$ per person per month mostly including (utilities, internet, maintenance and security) apart from host of other facilities like more common spaces and lot other luxuries hopefully sans the roaches and bugs. Simple math shows we are looking at a minimum of approximately 165% hike of the current rent paid.

With a small pocket of a graduate student who seems to be the main target community of this whole renovation processes, the raise in price for such commendable facilities seems debatable. Question now stands old Bailey gone would be a boon or a bane?

Speculating into the future (10 years) it would be a herald as a great move by IIT to reduce/eliminate international graduate student influx. Eventually graduate research would die. More undergraduate students would live in graduate apartments and slowly yet steadily SSV, MSV and fraternity halls would lose their charm. IIT would complete its transition from having been a leading research institute in the Midwest once to a purely undergraduate oriented commercial institute.

Bottom line, Bailey renovation would be a great short term boon to IIT and housing and a big time bane to students. Short term boon as IIT would lose graduate student popularity and end up being a real estate commercial organization. Lost would be the ideals of founder visionaries of IIT - Frank Gunsaulus (Chicago minister and first president of IIT, then Armour Institute) and Philip Danforth Armour, the Chicago meat packer and grain merchant, during 1890s. So simple yet so powerful was their vision - advanced education not just for society’s elite but for everyone who aspires. A vision which is sure to go down with Bailey. A big time bane for students as they would obviously lose a popular housing option on campus.

Leadership Academy
Scholarship Opportunity!!!

Once again, the Leadership Academy is offering full scholarships to qualified undergraduate students at IIT. All freshman, sophomore, and junior students are invited to apply for this scholarship. Scholarships are awarded based on a multi-stage assessment process.

Applications and faculty nomination forms are available on-line (http://leadershipacademy.iit.edu/scholarships.php) or at the Leadership Academy office located at the Life Science building, room 90B (basement).

Applications are due February 8, 2008 and the faculty nomination forms to accompany the applications are due February 15, 2008.

Questions? Contact us at leadership.academy@iit.edu; 312-567-3945
Or check us out on the web at http://leadershipacademy.iit.edu
Colin’s Corner: New Year’s resolutions

By Colin Emch-Wei

One hundred percent yes! It is certainly a tough work of applications for jobs, scholarships, and other opportunities, and students are bogged down filling them out, but don’t hesitate to apply for a second! These opportunities can have an incredible impact on your life and nothing should stop you from applying. It is a common misconception that just because you may not feel qualified for a job, that you shouldn’t apply. Leave the decision of who’s qualified to the interviewer. You may not be accepted the first time you apply, but it will be clear to the interviewers that upon the second year of applying that you desperately want the job or scholarship. You do have a chance at these scholarships (Resident Advisor for full room and board, Leadership Academy for full tuition). Last year I applied to both the Resident Advisor position and for the Leadership Academy, and was accepted to both. It has been an incredible experience and has allowed me to remain at this university financially. The same can happen to you! But first you must apply.

Here I offer a few suggestions for applying this year.

1) Don’t bother lying on the application, as your application will be reviewed a great deal, and your interviewers will be checked. After all, they aren’t going to give you ten or twenty thousand dollars without making sure you didn’t lie to them.

2) Find good recommendations; someone who knows your work ethic and your personal characteristics, and make sure they are written for you. Don’t ask an easy research professor for a recommendation if you don’t believe they will put in the solid time to ensure you get the scholarship. Remember, your essay questions and references will not only get you through the first round (application) to the second round (1st interview), but may be the difference between you and another candidate in that final decision.

3) Be very detailed on your application. Don’t use vague statements; use actual examples from your experience as a leader, resident, and IIT community member.

4) It’s great to have lots of examples of past leadership experiences, but try and focus on your impact on IIT. Interviewers will better understand your experiences if they can appreciate your impact on the campus. Don’t be afraid to put down outside experience, but remember that they want to know your impact on IIT.

5) Dress professionally for these interviews—“Dress to impress.” This means pulling punches, alienating the right people, and jumping up and down screaming like a banshee. It’s seemed to work so far.

6) Be nice to Union Board. I really don’t mean to pick on you, I promise.

7) Be irreverent. How else do you expect my seething students to give you? Finally, I get to the student body. I’ve felt for a long time that I really don’t write these articles. I hear what the word on the street is, and express it in a manner that gets concerns heard. Let me know if something is troubling you.

That’s all I can promise. Beyond that, it’s a weekend thing...I might forget about these all together, who knows.

Resident Advisor, Leadership Academy, should I apply?

By Raymond Ballard

One hundred percent yes! It is certainly a tough work of applications for jobs, scholarships, and other opportunities, and students are bogged down filling them out, but don’t hesitate to apply for a second! These opportunities can have an incredible impact on your life and nothing should stop you from applying. It is a common misconception that just because you may not feel qualified for a job, that you shouldn’t apply. Leave the decision of who’s qualified to the interviewer. You may not be accepted the first time you apply, but it will be clear to the interviewers that upon the second year of applying that you desperately want the job or scholarship. You do have a chance at these scholarships (Resident Advisor for full room and board, Leadership Academy for full tuition). Last year I applied to both the Resident Advisor position and for the Leadership Academy, and was accepted to both. It has been an incredible experience and has allowed me to remain at this university financially. The same can happen to you! But first you must apply.

Here I offer a few suggestions for applying this year.

1) Don’t bother lying on the application, as your application will be reviewed a great deal, and your interviewers will be checked. After all, they aren’t going to give you ten or twenty thousand dollars without making sure you didn’t lie to them.

2) Find good recommendations; someone who knows your work ethic and your personal characteristics, and make sure they are written for you. Don’t ask an easy research professor for a recommendation if you don’t believe they will put in the solid time to ensure you get the scholarship. Remember, your essay questions and references will not only get you through the first round (application) to the second round (1st interview), but may be the difference between you and another candidate in that final decision.

3) Be very detailed on your application. Don’t use vague statements; use actual examples from your experience as a leader, resident, and IIT community member.

4) It’s great to have lots of examples of past leadership experiences, but try and focus on your impact on IIT. Interviewers will better understand your experiences if they can appreciate your impact on the campus. Don’t be afraid to put down outside experience, but remember that they want to know your impact on IIT.

5) Dress professionally for these interviews—“Dress to impress.” This means pulling punches, alienating the right people, and jumping up and down screaming like a banshee. It’s seemed to work so far.

6) Be nice to Union Board. I really don’t mean to pick on you, I promise.

7) Be irreverent. How else do you expect my seething students to give you? Finally, I get to the student body. I’ve felt for a long time that I really don’t write these articles. I hear what the word on the street is, and express it in a manner that gets concerns heard. Let me know if something is troubling you.

That’s all I can promise. Beyond that, it’s a weekend thing...I might forget about these all together, who knows.

Right To Be Lit

By Kirti Prakash

Standing tall with a modest height enough to compete with most trees on campus and taunt the smaller ones, I am one of the trees in front of Bailey. I house lot of squirrels and other insects, apart from the usual things that trees do. I brave the weather of Chicago which rips me bare in fall yet I fight back as life finds its way. But I am hardly noticed and mostly ignored. In spite of all the indifference and apathy I still look forward to one particular day on the calendar. The day when people have no choice but to notice me – the tree lighting day.

Since some years I have been denied even this simple pleasure and more importantly my RIGHT TO BE LIT. I have not been lit since a long time. The last I can remember being lit was the year when Mr. Collins swore in as a president of IIT. I heard there is a new president now. Though tree memory is not too good to trust I feel it has been quite some time. There was a time when I decided I will not take things silent. I talked to my colleagues, discussed it with family and complained about it with my friends. All had only one thing to say, “You are just a tree, do not make a big deal out of it and just keep doing what you are supposed to.” Then I thought hard. The harder I thought the stronger came the thrust to do what I am supposed to do – REVOLT.

With a disturbed and unhappy mind I decided I will revolt though not sure how. After long deliberation I decided I will not bloom neither with flowers nor leaves irrespective of the season. Spring passed peacefully yet I was worried as no one noticed my revolt. I wished I could shout, hold banners and blog on internet or post a video on Youtube. Summer people should notice thought I commented. I tried to start blossoming and rejuvenating with leaves. Snow disappeared, the campus started turning green and then yellow. Nothing changed and no one noticed. Finally one day I started seizing activity near my foot. Some guys from IIT facilities finally started noticing and I was happy. The happiness was short lived. I overheard them say “this tree does not bloom soon, it is to be cut. This came in as a rude shock. I could not sleep all night. I kept getting bad dreams in which a lot of people surrounded me with different kinds of saws and axes and were shouting “Cut it, cut it, cut it.” I felt unusually cold and chilly. I came to my senses. I recalled my revolt to an end and got back to being a good tree with no emotions. I realized I am just a “tree” as all my well wishes put it. The very next day I bloomed like I never did before. All my past friends – squirrels, birds and a whole bunch of other tiny creatures started coming back and once again I was bustling with activity. I felt happy yet I used to envy my friends next to frat house, SBEV. They could not even match half of my height or my grandeur still they get the grand ceremony just because they are strategically located on campus.

This year after the New President came in along with him came the surprise. I was left!! Most of my friends in front of Bailey and I felt like a chopped tree. I have been lit in front of Caman too. I feel sorry for all the future donors of the tree. The tree lighting will now be a mere symbolic gesture even though I have been lit. I still look forward to one particular day on the calendar. The day when people have no choice but to notice me – the tree lighting day.

Wishing you a Happy New Year.
Fine, don’t write for TechNews.

See if we care.

(please write for TechNews)
**How the world remembers Benazir Bhutto**

**By Anam Moin Khan**

Headlines of Pakistan’s newspaper, Dawn News:

*Grief, anger at Bhutto funeral procession NAUDERO, Pakistan*

Thousands of mourners went and beat their heads and chanted as the body of Benazir Bhutto, slain former Pakistani prime minister, left her ancestral home at the start of the funeral procession on Friday.

Outside Pakistan, the assassination world-wide:

*World condemns Bhutto assassination, and fears for stability of Pakistan KARACHI, December 28 (Agencies)*

In between, dismay and condemnation poured forth over the assassination of Pakistan’s opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, already a concern for the stability of the volatile region. World leaders lauded her bravery and commitment to democratic reforms.

Headlines of Pakistan’s newspaper, Dawn News:

*Former premier Benazir Bhutto, who was assassinated in a suicide attack in Rawalpindi on Thursday aged 54, restored democracy to her country in 1988 after 11 years of dictatorship, according to her obituary published in Daily Telegraph.*

Her main interest was always foreign policy – she became a single piece of comparative government at Harvard.

**Reflection on a woman who wanted to restore democracy**

**By Anam Moin Khan**

Former premier Benazir Bhutto, who was assassinated in a suicide attack in Rawalpindi on Thursday aged 54, restored democracy to her country in 1988 after 11 years of dictatorship, according to her obituary published in Daily Telegraph.

She failed to pass completion of his studies to lead his party and his country to success for the people of Pakistan but for all those who believed in freedom. It is not only a success for the people of Pakistan but for all those who believed in freedom.

She did not organize anti-America rallies or issue fatwa’s against best-selling authors, it says.

To her opponents she was more English than Pakistani, more Western than Eastern. Her Urdu, although fluent, was ungrammatical, while her Sindhi, her family’s working tongue, was almost non-existent.

During her first 20-month spell as prime minister from 1988 to 1990, she failed to pass the appointments of judges on the basis of loyalty to her party caused massive damage to the Pakistani judiciary’s already dwindling credibility, not to say her own.

She kept throughout her life. Yet indications of her hard ambitious side surfaced when she staked on an extra year to become president of the union.

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iit celebrates black history month

Friday, February 1, 2008
Kickoff Celebration
12:15 p.m.
Main Campus, MTCC Ballroom

Keynote speaker: Perri L. Irmer (ARCH ‘81),
chief executive officer of the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority

Special performances by the Northwest Indiana Dance Alliance
Soul food reception and special recognition of black student leaders

Upcoming Events Include:

Friday, February 15, 2008
Soul Food Friday and Umoja Marketplace
11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Main Campus, MTCC Welcome Center and Ballroom
Special issuer performance of Crowns, a musical play by Regina Taylor

Friday, February 22–Sunday, February 24, 2008
Crowns
Main Campus, Hermann Hall Auditorium, 5241 S. Federal Street
Special scholarship performance on Friday, February 22 for the Charles Pierce Scholarship Program and Open Door Repertory Company

For more information, contact Kevin G. Smith, executive director of the Office of Multicultural Student Services, at omss@iit.edu or 312.567.3250.
There is a hat for every occasion, from flirting to churchgoing, from baptisms to funerals. The tradition of hats is traced back to African rituals and slavery and moved forward to the New Testament and current fashion. Directed by award-winning playwright McKenley Johnson, Open Door’s beautiful production of Crowns was nominated for six Black Theatre Alliance awards. Sold-out houses gave standing ovations at every performance. Most of Open Door’s original cast returns for this great revival. This production of Crowns is sponsored in part by National City Bank and Siemens Corporation.

Performance Dates and Times
Friday, February 22, 2008 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, February 23, 2008 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Sunday, February 24, 2008 at 5 p.m.
To order Tickets, call (708) 802 – 1723 or visit Open Door Repertory’s website, www.pendoorrep.org.
Hubbard Street Dance Company stuns audiences

By Colin Emch-Wei
A&E EDITOR

In the culmination of a months-long collaboration between the renowned Hubbard Street Dance Company and the IIT School of Architecture, audiences were stunned by an incredible performance by the company and equally impressed by the architectural expression of dance.

The night was summed up perfect by Professor Dirk Denison, who created the advanced studio elective that made the weekend performance possible. “Sometimes it’s nice just to have something beautiful.” Indeed it is, and we couldn’t agree more.

Members of the audiences were first greeted by a truly unorthodox seating arrangement. We were handed blue plastic booties to protect the stage/seating area, and then led to the set that architecture students had designed and built for literally days on end. The space, essentially an organic, rotated slab, melded surprisingly well with the hard minimalist lines of Crown Hall and temporarily transformed what is typically considered a purely academic space into something regal and gorgeous.

What came as a surprise to many was the role reversal that took place during the performance. Following the first piece, audience members were asked to vacate the seating area and then sit where dancers had previously been performing. Dancers then took the previously occupied space and performed a rather humorous Victorian piece.

The dances themselves were quite incredible. The choreography mixed elements of ballet, jazz, Latin dances, and interpretive movement to create something wholly unique and thought-provoking. The articulation of human movement was technically perfect, and a few dancers couldn’t help but stand out amongst the troupe. Especially worth mention was the spectacular performance of the lead dancer in the piece “B-Sides”. This particular dance blended multiple songs from the artist Hybrid, and created an extremely dense and complex wall of sound that was augmented by the artists.

All in all, this lengthy collaboration was definitely a success. I give a hearty congratulations to all involved in the project, as HSDC @ IIT couldn’t have gone any better.

Leadership Academy proudly presents

Effective Decision-Making Seminar

The long-term success of both individuals and organizations derives, in large measure, from the effectiveness of the decisions that are made. Whether these decisions are strategic, operational, or personal, decisions determine the character and quality of both the person and the organization. For these reasons, decision-making is one of the most important responsibilities of leadership.

Learning Objectives:

- Frame decisions, based on their purpose
- Gain consensus on decisions and actions
- Generate creative solutions and actions
- Manage the risk associated with decisions
- Cut through data needed to make decisions
- Increase confidence in recommendations
- Appraise complex situations and set priorities
- Apply these methods to your own issues, decisions, and performance challenges.

Date & Time: February 2nd, 2008. 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Location: ARMOUR FACULTY ROOM (HUB)
Lunch is provided

Please remember – this event is only open to undergraduate students

Register for this event by January 31st at http://leadershipacademy.iit.edu/schedule.php or 312.567.3945 or via e mail to leadership.academy@iit.edu
Crossword

Across
1. Set of cards
7. Air bag?
10. Winter sleep
11. This pulls a bit
12. Subtle glow
13. Modifications
18. Ages and ages
19. Negative加入
20. Symbol of sovereignty
21. Ballpark figure
22. Behavioral quirk
24. “...the land of the free...”
25. Yellow, Red or Black
27. Put on the scales
29. Completely
32. Mean
33. “Andy Capp” cartoonist
36. Mathematical proposition
37. Naive
39. ___ de plume
40. Black gold
41. Minister (abbr.)
42. Greyhound, e.g.
43. Lend a hand
45. Fraternity letter
46. White House nickname
47. Symbol of sovereignty
49. Ridiculous
50. 500 sheets
51. Cairo’s waterway
52. Em, to Dorothy

Down
1. Blender setting
2. Italian red wine
3. Warm-hearted
4. Pace
5. Tolstoy’s Karenina
6. Step
7. Advance
8. Uncommon
9. Understanding
14. TV news reporter
15. Trampled
16. Wrongful act
17. Of childbirth
23. Ice house
26. Two under par
28. Member of the flock
30. “Catch-22” pilot
31. A affirmative response
32. Trap
33. “Ugly Betty” fashion magazine
34. Contents of Pando- ra’s box
35. Freight boat
36. Matter of debate
40. foolish act
48. Stand for a portrait
49. Sign from above
50. Cain’s waterway
51. Cairo’s waterway
52. Em, to Dorothy

What U Know About Sports

What is the best team in NBA Jam?
A. Utah Jazz
B. Utah Jazz
C. Utah Jazz
D. Utah Jazz

Answer in last week’s issue

Answer to next week’s question:
Karina Powell, winner of High Jump at 1984 Los Angeles Summer Olympics
Should you cross Lake Shore Drive?

By Joe Kaiser

GameTap, a service that lets you download commercially released videogames at an unlimited rate for a nominal monthly fee, recently celebrated its 100th game available for download, Sid Meier’s Civilization IV. In honor of this milestone, I took a look into GameTap to seek out some of the grandfathers of the genre, trailblazing games that excited us in arcades when our parents were conceiving.

In honor of this milestone, I took a look into GameTap to seek out some of the grandfathers of the genre, trailblazing games that excited us in arcades when our parents were conceiving. Found items: Games that time forgot

1982: Xevious
Your enemies are “devious,” but also “eXtreme.”
1984: Super Xevious
Your enemies are “Xevious,” (see above) but also “Super.”

Variations of Street Fighter:

1989: Predators
History started in 1981. FYI, Guyas.

1988: The New Zealand Story
Join James Cook as he pacifies the Maori and erases their culture! LOL just kidding.

1989: KLAX
IT IS THE 90S AND THERE IS TIME FOR
1985: Exed Exes

Con: Traffic congestion costs the Chicagoland Area like $13 Billion a year, so you just blew at least a thousand dollars by pressing that button.
Pro: But maybe that thousand dollars was from a cigarette company or something, so you just saved someone from getting cancer.

Con: But maybe the person you saved worked for the cigarette company, and they have a genius idea for a marketing campaign that will give millions more kids cancer.
Pro: Kids are pretty overrated though, and they’re the reason that Fall Out Boy exists. So if you kill all the kids because you pressed that button, there would be no more Fall Out Boy.

Con: Then everyone would look at you weird if you say that something is the “Pete Wentzietest Thing I’ve Heard All Day.”
Pro: Everyone looks at you weird anyway.
Con: What if someone is trying to go to the hospital and needs a heart transplant and you stopped them and now they’re dead?
Pro: But maybe you also stopped a terrorist from bringing a bomb to your house.

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Start Growing Your Career at the Spring Career Fair

Wednesday, February 13, 2008
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Hermann Union Building (HUB)
3241 S. Federal, Chicago IL, 60616

Here’s your chance to discover a successful career! Employers from around the country are hiring for permanent positions, co-ops, and internships in a variety of industries and in ALL majors.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield | Caterpillar Inc. | Comarch Inc. | Exelon | Illinois Department of Transportation | John Crane, Inc. | Midway Amusement Games | Motorola | optionsXpress | Panduit Corporation | Peak 6 Investments | Siemens Medical Solutions | Townsend Analytics | Underwriters Laboratories | Walgreens | Walsh Construction | W. W. Grainger, Inc. | AND MORE!

For a current list of employers that will be at the fair log in at:
http://www.cmc.iit.edu/students/careerFair/index.asp

Business attire required for entry, so come dressed for success!
Men: Suit OR dress pants & button down shirt and tie or jacket.
Ladies: Suit OR dress pants or appropriate length skirt & blouse

For More Information Visit: www.cmc.iit.edu or call (312) 567-6800
**Hawks break nine game losing streak**

**By Stephanie Herrera**

The Hawks faced Lake Forest as their first match up of the New Year. They fought hard on the boards and had tough defense but still held firm on shooting. The Hawks shot 27.5% for the night to the Foresters amazing 60%. The Hawks came out in the first half slow making the second half a game against the clock. The final score was 13-28.

The Hawks had a hard time containing the 6’4” Pat Ebbing who took 19 points for the Foresters and the 6’3” Hoyt Rees who had 16 of his own points. The Foresters shot 45% overall from the 3-point line and 62% from the free throw. The Hawks were able to take advantage of the Foresters in foul trouble making 11 of 17 from the line. Despite the hard working Hawks effort they lost 63-36.

Sophomore Matt McKinley was able to keep the Hawks in the game for a long time. His 11 points gave the Hawks a chance to come out slow but not far behind with a score of 33 to 43. The Hawks had a better showing this game than the last, with three of their own. The Hawks brought in double digit scoring, but they couldn’t restrain the Crimson Waves tough inside game.

Starting playmaker George Kelly had 20 points for the Hawks in the loss and Brandon Brandewie whose been a key player the past couple rounds. The Crimson Wave had four players in double digit points and all of the team took advantage of their scoring opportunities. The Wave shot 48% to the Hawks 37%.

The Hawks didn’t go down without a fight. They forced 11 turnovers on the Wave and grabbed 24 defensive rebounds. Carlos Fernandez had 15 points and 10 rebounds, his first double-double of the season. Matt McKinley and Steve Koloko followed for 14 points each for the game. Despite the Hawks amazing effort, they had a devastating loss to Calumet 45-90.

The Hawks managed to rest up over night to face Concordia on Tuesday. They defeated from the night before, the Hawks came out stronger than ever. They tramped Concordia in the first half 49-22. They didn’t let up after the break.

The Hawks shot one of their best ever, 57% from the field to Concordia’s 41%. The Hawks struggled to get around on the boards and had tough defense but IUSB’s 10-19 three pointers killed the Hawks ability to get back in the game. The Hawks had an improving free throw percentage to 71%, but they were still not able to make a go at IUSB’s 50% from the line. The Hawks had 9 points each and Lisa Reed had 9 boards for the Hawks. They face the tough Olivet Nazarene on Saturday, January 31st at 7pm.

**Lady Hawks win in first game of 2008**

**By Stephanie Herrera**

The Lady Hawks faced the Dominican University their first game back from break and they played as if they had never lost. They barely gave Dominican a chance, forcing 25 turnovers and out rebounding them 32 to 29. The Hawks scored a fantastic 64-45 against the St. Mary’s Pirates which gave the Lady Hawks an advantage. The Lady Hawks out played Dominican 57-48. It was an all around effort for the Lady Hawks starting with Shannon Diamond who put the bench in the lead with 16 points and 6 assists for the team. The Lady Hawks scored a lack 3 and 2 steals, including 100% from the field. She is the only player to do that for the Lady Hawks this season. Captain Erin Pedersen had 5-4 from the free throw line in 11 points and 4 rebounds for the night. Junior Jackie Puschkar had 6 points and 7 rebounds for the Hawks ending in a victory over Dominican 57-48.

Two nights later the 4-12 Trinity Trojans played an aggressive game against the Lady Hawks. Once the Hawks stepped up their game they kept it a close match against the Trojans. The Hawks shot 46% in the first half. The Lady Hawks played an appetite with the Trojans pressure for most of the first half and were able to beat it easily. Allisyn Williams had 14 points off of fast break lay-ups in the first half alone. But the game stayed close enough the half ending up 1 point.
Hawks enter the New Year 8-7

By Stephanie Herrera
SPORTS EDITOR

It was an upsetting loss in the opening game of the two games this weekend at Berea College in Kentucky. The Hawks were playing Kentucky style basketball. The first match up was against Midway College with a score of 66-61. After leading the game through the 15 minute mark, the Hawks out rebounded the Eagles 25 to 15, but fell short by 17 points. Frustrated, the Hawks regrouped in the locker room to come out and play a better second half.

In the second half the Hawks continued their trend of playing better than the first half. The lady Hawks played against Trinity Christian (6-11) at home on Tuesday night. The Trots set the pace in Keating and a poor one at that. The Hawks started out hot at the half at the Trolls slow and tried to pick it up before the half, but went into the locker room down by 16. With a tough second half in front of them the Hawks came out more intense than the first. At one point the Hawks had shortened the lead by 6 points, but point guard and Captain Rashida Joiner took a hard hit to the nose that sent her to the floor. She sat out the rest of the game with a possible broken nose. It was a back and forth game by them, Erin Pedersen broke away with 2 steals and 2 easy baskets in a row late in the half to get a spark started. But despite the effort in the second half, the Hawks were unable to pull it through. It was a battle against the clock and unfortunately the Hawks fell to the Trolls in a close game. The Hawks were able to contribute to the final score, both shooting 41% from the field.

The Lady Hawks won a close game 60-54 and ended the year 8-7. Two games better than last season’s record. They entered 2008 with a winning record and a chance to get two more wins before conference starts. Stephanie Herrera

Hawks lose 3 games in a row

By Stephanie Herrera
SPORTS EDITOR

The weekend in Viterbo ended in two disappointing losses. Friday’s match up was against hosts Viterbo University. Carlos Fernandez started out with a three point play to get the Hawks fired up. The Hawks stayed ahead until the 12 minute mark when Viterbo went on an 18 and 2 run. Viterbo’s stellar defense and rebounding abilities kept the game out of reach for the Hawks. The Hawks fell into a shooting slump early in the second half, shooting 33% from the field leaving their chances to take over the game. They shot better from the 3 point line in the second half, shooting 40%, but it wasn’t enough.

Despite the loss Carlos Fernandez led the team with 13 points from the 3. Rob Knapczyk followed closely with 12 of his own to add to the final score, both shooting 41% from the field. Brandon Brandewie led the team with 6 rebounds. The Hawks lost 50-80.

Their second match up was against Wheaton (6-1). The Hawks came out more intense and competitive than the prior game. They stayed with Wheaton for the full 20 minutes, ending the half only down by one point. With leading scorer Rob Knapczyk out the Hawks suffered in shooting percentage, but still managed to shoot 46% from the field, but lacked in 3 pointers, not getting any attempts. The Hawks were out rebounded and had 32 turnovers which kept the game out of reach.

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The weekend in Viterbo ended in two disappointing losses. Friday’s match up was against hosts Viterbo University. Carlos Fernandez started out with a three point play to get the Hawks fired up. The Hawks stayed ahead until the 12 minute mark when Viterbo went on an 18 and 2 run. Viterbo’s stellar defense and rebounding abilities kept the game out of reach for the Hawks. The Hawks fell into a shooting slump early in the second half, shooting 33% from the field leaving their chances to take over the game. They shot better from the 3 point line in the second half, shooting 40%, but it wasn’t enough.

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