2008 Illinois Tech Stryker Awards

By Christopher Chock
PHOTO EDITOR

With the school year’s end barely out of reach, many students are beginning to see summer mode - the seniors are thinking about jobs or grad school and the rest of us are wondering whether or not we’ll be coming back in the fall. There are a select few of us, however, who can look back at this last year and know that they did something right, something that the school even bothered to recognize. Those individuals are the individuals who were recognized this past Tuesday night at the annual Stryker Awards.

The Stryker Awards are given to students and a staff member who have shown outstanding dedication to the university as a either a part of their student organization, or as being a role model for the rest of us to admire. This year’s Stryker award winners included students from many of the diverse fields and organizations here at IIT, including TechNews’ own Karina Powell. Other winners included members from Union Board and Student Government Association, among other organizations.

Not only is this award given to students and staff members who deserve recognition for going above and beyond what is expected of them, but it was also awarded to an organization this year - the IIT chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB). For the past several years, EWB has been working closely with local residents as well as other student organizations on campus to provide electricity to Pignon High School, which required EWB members to actually visit the site and meet members of the school’s administration.

This year’s Richard Babcock Leadership Award went to Ellen Kloppenborg, a Junior Chemical Engineering student with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AICHE). The Babcock Leadership Award is the only Stryker Award to carry with it a cash prize, which was awarded to Kloppenborg with her parents in attendance. She said that she would take her parents out to dinner with the award money.

Congratulations to Ellen and all of the other award winners. On behalf of the student body, thank you for your dedication to the university and for committing your time to help improve student life here so that the rest of us can enjoy the fruits of your labor.

Photo by Christopher Chock

ACE Racing team ready for second championship

By ACE Formula Hybrid Team

TECHNEWS SUBMISSION

The ACE (Amour College of Engineering) Formula Hybrid Racing Team is gearing up for the second annual international ‘Formula Hybrid Competition,’ to be held at the New Hampshire International Speedway from the 5th to the 7th of May.

The Formula Hybrid Competition, organized by the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College and sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) and Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), challenges teams from around the world to build hybrid race cars to compete in several events. The ACE Formula Hybrid Team, formed in 2006 by undergraduate and graduate students in the Grainger Power Electronics and Motor Drives Laboratory, learned a great deal from last year’s competition and are ready for this year’s, with a second car, improved design, and increased sponsor support.

More than eighty IIT students from all grade levels, representing several engineering majors, including Electrical, Computer, Mechanical, Aerospace, Chemical, Environmental, Civil, and Architectural Engineering as well as Information Technology Management have contributed to the ACE Formula Hybrid project since it began under the guidance of ECE Professor Ali Emadi, Project Manager Sanjaya Wairasingha and Antonios Antoniou.

ACE Formula Racing will be represented by a 12 member team that leaves for New Hampshire on the 2nd of May and will race IIT’s entries, ACE 01 and ACE 02, against 15 other teams representing schools from all over the United States as well as a few international teams from Russia, Canada and Taiwan.

During last year’s inaugural competition, the team from IIT brought only one race car to New Hampshire, finishing 3rd in two of the three dynamic event competitions: the acceleration run (drag) and autocross. This year, in a display of technological prowess, the team hopes to build on its past successes by returning to the competition with two race cars. The first car, ACE I, was built from the ground up by IIT students, featuring a powerful drivetrain and advanced on-board computer control system. IIT’s second race car, ACE II, is the same car that appeared in last year’s competition, but with quite a few upgrades and a completely redesigned control system.

ACE Formula Hybrid 2008

Team members, team leaders and project manager with the 2008 car, the ACE I.

Photo courtesy of the ACE Formula Hybrid Racing Team

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continued on page 9

OPINION

What’s happening with the RHA Food Committee restructuring? Find out.

page 4

CAMPUS

Read about Spring Formal, held at the Adler Planetarium this year.

page 8

A&E

Check out a review of the new movie, Forgetting Sarah Marshall.

TUESDAY

April 22, 2008

Volume 164 • Issue 12

OPINION

By Linda Goldstein
CAMPUS EDITOR

Rachel Richard, the Graduate Assistant currently in charge of Women Services in the Office of Multicultural Services, invited TechNews to write an inform article on the the Illinois Tech Women’s Commission (ITWC). It is my personal opinion that this delightful commission is the best thing to happen to technical women since pocket protectors.

The Illinois Tech Women’s Commission, says their introductory document, will serve to represent female members of the IIT community. To whom we women will be represented is not specifically. I suppose that it is a general kind of representation, on the order of abstract art. The ITWC, the document continues, will create and offer recommendations, suggestions, and advice on how to best improve the campus climate for women. These offerings seem likely to be offered to the departments judged to be the most useful in furthering the aims of the ITWC. The commission will also help to further the education of the campus community, assuming that issues important to women and thus also important to those who emotionally or romantically attach to said women. The membership of the ITWC is intended to be multicultural, full of representatives of every wocactively on campus from athletics to Greek life to graduate students, including even GLBT-identifying persons.

Many of the plans and concerns of the ITWC are based on a survey conducted by the Office of Women Services in early November 2007. A table of results from this survey shows that safety issues are the number one issue that respondents worry about, tied with leadership development and feeling closely connected to the IIT community. The survey also touched on health in general, health/nutrition, and health services. The survey results also include the datum that seven out of ten women feel under-appreciated and out of place, underrepresented, unrecognized, hardworking but not sufficiently empowered, generally not proud enough of their campus.

At meetings this semester, the commissioners spoke about and brainstormed for Women’s History Month and talked about relevant Chicago-area events, the Julia Beveridge awards, the search for a new Director, survey results, and an event for Preview Weekend. At the most recent meeting (and the final one for this year) this past April 14, 2008, the commission hosted Kevin Smith, who discussed the Director position and explained that with the upcoming restructuring of the higher administration, the hiring of a director was to be postponed. There was also planning for the group’s booth at Welcome Week and discussion of what the office could best be offered to the departments judged to be the most useful in furthering the aims of the ITWC. The Illinois Tech Women’s Commission, says the survey respondents, would like to feel under-appreciated and out of place, underrepresented, unrecognized, hardworking but not sufficiently empowered, generally not proud enough of their campus.

Across from the Southern Pines dorms, a delightful commission is the best thing to happen to technical women since pocket protectors. The Illinois Tech Women’s Commission, says their introductory document, will serve to represent female members of the IIT community. To whom we women will be represented is not specifically. I suppose that it is a general kind of representation, on the order of abstract art. The ITWC, the document continues, will create and offer recommendations, suggestions, and advice on how to best improve the campus climate for women. These offerings seem likely to be offered to the departments judged to be the most useful in furthering the aims of the ITWC. The commission will also help to further the education of the campus community, assuming that issues important to women and thus also important to those who emotionally or romantically attach to said women. The membership of the ITWC is intended to be multicultural, full of representatives of every wocactively on campus from athletics to Greek life to graduate students, including even GLBT-identifying persons.

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Opinion

Do you want to get paid for your articles?

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Opinion

Paul Spears, Editor
speadon@iit.edu

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

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Colin’s Corner: Alarmist study tactics!

By Linda Goldstein

Your beloved Food Committee, run by student Seth Thomas, had another meeting. Aren’t you delighted? It was this past Tuesday April 15 in the P-Club as per its biweekly usual, and it was topped with a special topic discussion included matters to talk about what they want. Sometimes this takes a lot of work; the Food Committee members have to think of new ways to elicit specific feedback from IIT students. The electronic survey was one; the whiteboard in the Commons is another; the Taco Thursday feedback table in the Commons is yet another. Feedback is routed to Joe, the Main In Charge of the running of the Commons.

You may have seen the large whiteboard in the Commons near the tray return. Well, people have been writing on it, and a typed handout of items written on the big whiteboard in the Commons was distributed to administrators and students at the Food Committee meeting. There appear to be around ten comments per meal (lunch and dinner.) However, the purpose may not have been communicated as clearly as we would have liked. The original purpose was to provide a way for students to communicate something wrong that could be taken care of right away. Items such as “We need more ketchup” or “Out of spoons by the ice cream” were the original purpose (which is why there were boxes for staff members after they did said things), however after seeing some of the responses we received, we decided to include both items. Hopefully, during this week we will actually utilize that actual whiteboard instead of the pad of paper that was used temporarily until we got a more permanent board. The board will be separated for comments that are more general and comments such as the original purpose. Some comments that have been on the pad of paper include;

“Don’t collect these of juices such as pomegranate would be good.”

“Can we have more watermelon?” (This was acted on- see below.)

A request for quinoa (a grain with a high protein content and, although difficult to obtain, valuable in a vegan diet)

“Thanks for the guacamole yesterday.”

“Yay! More watermelon!”

“Yay for ice cream! There was still some left after the children attacked.”

“Need higher quality ingredients”

“Gnocci- undercooked” Gnocci is, as far as I know, a type of Italian dumpling- i.e. a lump of dough.

“The apple juice is water.”

“Yes the we were tenderized just the way I like it!” ...That’s what she said.

“A little less spice. It’s so spicy that sometimes I can’t eat the food.” I agree, there was a day when the Traditional station doused everything in what I think was low-grade cayenne.

do you agree? Disagree? Want to contribute? You will not be graded on spelling.

During the Taco Thursday feedback table session (see picture); there were more good than bad comments from individual station. Unfortunately (despite the candy on the table and the friendly people behind it), only about forty people stopped to talk. As Taco Thursday lunch usually draws several hundred attendees and it seems likely that all of them have opinions... why did more people not stop by? Maybe it's shyness. Maybe it's a lack of ability on the part of IIT's masses past Thursday in the Commons. There was a dual purpose for the feedback table, one being to get a general feel for what the students think about the food as well as putting a face with the committee to show that we are actually students trying to improve the food service. We are just starting to get serious feedback that we can do something with. Feedback such as, “The food sucks” or “We need more variety” are not as helpful to us as a food committee because we can’t do anything about those. If we were told, "The pizza needs new sauce" or something of that sort, we can give that feedback to Joe and he can work on a new sauce. This is just an idea, but you see what kind of feedback that we can do things with. We will be in the Commons from time to time, so make sure to come up and talk with us. We will do more verbal surveys but also distribute written surveys that you can fill out during your meal.

What you didn’t know: we’re having Indian Tuesdays again nowadays! It didn’t come up in the meeting, but I heard from a fellow student that there was distinctly Indianfood offered at the vegetarian/light/pasta station this past Tuesday. Speaking of healthy food... in that meeting I keep mentioning, Joe talked about the reason behind the fruit selection in the cafeteria. The price are too far up on bananas yet to buy on a regular basis. Orange prices high but are coming down. The price of watermelon is still high but it’s worth it, it’s tasty and was requested by students. Unfortunately, it's still the wrong season for watermelons and the prices are still high.

Strawberries would anyway have vanished into virtually every discussion. Students, in the infinite wisdom that comes from the mouths of babes, declare our cafeteria food to be delicious, delicious, delicious. This viewpoint, unbiased by the influences of reviews of the food by our college peers (based in part of the quality of several years ago), may be more valid than the current IIT student perception of Sodexo. On the other hand, maybe then nowadays it time to get used to it yet. The Food Committee has supper organized to include three subcommittees, which are as follows. The Commons subcommittee will work with Joe Kocher, and includes Brendan, Tim, Piyush, Anam, Jeff, and Jon. The Center Court subcommittee will work with Sabrina Thomas, and includes Miksug, Linda, Garrett, and Gbenro. Speaking of organization, Greg Lepore, the current IIT-Sodexo General Manager, has been promoted to be District Manager for Michigan. As an admin member of the committee said, “It's pretty exciting within the Sodexo community." The process of choosing his successor is continuing. The committee which will gather feedback about the BOP, Pritzer Club, Smart Market (in the HUB), and Catering is currently looking for members who are interested in conducting independent research and contacting those who use services provided by the above. If interested, please email food@iit.edu.

The RHA Food Committee collected feedback from students in the Commons.

Photo by Linda Goldstein

By Colin Emch-Wei

I am absolutely furious. Here I am, 24 days before graduation and I’m doing insane amounts of coursework. In fact, I’m completely swamped right now and I continue to slog through assignments to the best of my ability, praying that I’ve completed them as required. Frankly, sometimes I’m not sure.

I waited patiently for five years to be able to attend school. In addition, I assumed myself that the last semester would be a relaxing one, a term of tranquility that would serve as vindication from all the years of academic torture that I was subjected to. Sadly, I realize now that I must have been naive to think like that. A moron am I.

The affliction known as Senioritis has gripped me in its great, strong jaws, and I am but nearly powerless to overcome it. The penultimate prize of walking across that stage has not been a motivation to get work done, but rather a fear of not being able to. While I am totally sure that I’m going to make it; some paranoid shred of my psyche screams at me every time I power up an Xbox or go to the movies. I am sure that if I do not do my best on a certain task, I am doomed to fail. I know it sounds really sad, but it’s been working really well so far. Think about it this way: rather than just getting an undesirable grade, you must follow the trail of consequences down to the worst case scenario. For example, if you pull an all-nighter, you’ ll be tired the next day and probably fail apiece in class. But what if that class is a shop class, and you zonk out at the controls of a bandsaw? Or you pass out right before some sort of massive explosive in your face during a lab? You begin to question whether or not you actually need to stay up to complete that raid in World of Warcraft.

Perhaps you decided to ditch class to go to a taping of “The Jerry Springer Show.” There might be a quiz in that class, and that quiz might be worth 90% of your grade. If you missed the quiz you get to repeat that class and extend your stay at Illinois Tech by a semester. Shouldn’t have gone to see that tabloid show, eh?

I have dubbed this methodology the Alarmist Study Plan. It probably leads to massive anxiety and panic attacks, but we have counseling for those types of things. And trust me, you’ll get a LOT of stuff done that Sunday night... you’ll also never fail a class again.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date/Time Reported</th>
<th>Incident Occurred Between</th>
<th>Case #</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENT</td>
<td>ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : CARMEN HALL - 60 E 32ND</td>
<td>4/11/2008 11:23 PM</td>
<td>4/12/2008 12:00 AM and 4/12/2008 4:00 AM</td>
<td>04122008-000306</td>
<td>PSD RESPONDED TO LOCATION DUE TO STUDENT BEING LOCKED OUT OF RESIDENCE. FACILITIES NOTIFIED TO RESOLVE.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- PSD responded to location due to student being locked out of residence. Facilities notified to resolve.
- PSD responded to location after receiving a call from the RA that there was a disturbance.
- PSD responded to location due to a backed up toilet. Facilities responded to resolve.
- PSD informed by student that he lost his personal property and wanted a report generated.
- PSD responded to leak in janitor closet in the women's bathroom located on the 4th floor. Facilities responded and resolved.
- PSD responded to location due to student altercation which resulted in student having injury. Student refused medical attention.
- PSD on location discovered students in location due to an unsecured door before building was actually opened.
- PSD responded to alarm activation due to student cooking in location. CFD responded.
Public Safety Incident Reports

Incident Type: LARCENY/THEFT : OTHER
Location: ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: MAIN CAMPUS: ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS: HERMANN UNION BUILDING - 3241 S FEDERAL
Date/Time Reported: 4/14/2008 11:21 AM  Incident Occurred Between: 4/14/2008 11:21 AM and 4/14/2008 11:21 AM
Case #: 04142008-000316  Int. Ref. #:  Disposition: CLOSED - NO FURTHER ACTION POSSIBLE
Notes: PSD RESPONDED TO LOCATION TO TAKE A THEFT REPORT OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM BASEMENT AREA BY UNKNOWN PERSON(S).

Incident Type: LARCENY/THEFT : OTHER
Location: ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: MAIN CAMPUS: RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS: MCCORMICK STUDENT VILLAGE - 3241 S WABASH
Date/Time Reported: 4/14/2008 6:15 PM  Incident Occurred Between: 4/14/2008 6:15 PM and 4/14/2008 6:15 PM
Case #: 04142008-000318  Int. Ref. #:  Disposition: CLEARED - NO FURTHER ACTION
Notes: PSD RESPONDED TO LOCATION TO TAKE REPORT FOR IIT STAFF MEMBER WHOSE WALLET WAS REMOVED FROM HER OFFICE BY UNKNOWN PERSON(S).

Incident Type: SUSPICIOUS PERSON
Location: ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: MAIN CAMPUS: ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS: 3424 S STATE
Case #: 04152008-000319  Int. Ref. #:  Disposition: CLEARED - NO FURTHER ACTION
Notes: PSD RESPONDED TO LOCATION AFTER RECEIVING A CALL OF UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL IN THE BUILDING. UNFOUNDED.

Incident Type: ROBBERY : STRONG-ARM HAND/FISTS/FEET
Location: ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: MAIN CAMPUS: ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS: 3424 S STATE
Date/Time Reported: 4/16/2008 8:35 AM  Incident Occurred Between: 4/16/2008 8:35 AM and 4/16/2008 8:59 AM
Case #: 04162008-000322  Int. Ref. #:  Disposition: CLEARED BY ARREST
Notes: PSD RESPONDED TO LOCATION AFTER BEING ALERTED THAT A NON-IIT PERSONNEL/STUDENT WAS ROBBED OFF CAMPUS OF HIS PERSONAL PROPERTY. CPD NOTIFIED AND ARREST WAS MADE.

Incident Type: ROBBERY : STRONG-ARM HAND/FISTS/FEET
Location: ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: MAIN CAMPUS: OTHER: OFF CAMPUS LOCATION
Case #: 04172008-000328  Int. Ref. #:  Disposition: CLEARED BY ARREST
Notes: PSD RESPONDED TO LOCATION AFTER HEARING AN IIT FACULTY MEMBER HAD BEEN ASSAULTED AND ROBBED OF HIS PROPERTY. CPD ON THE SCENE AND ARRESTS WERE MADE.

Incident Type: UTILITY INCIDENT : ELECTRICITY
Location: ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: MAIN CAMPUS: ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS: FARR HALL - 3300 S MICHIGAN
Date/Time Reported: 4/17/2008 8:34 PM  Incident Occurred Between: 4/17/2008 8:34 PM and 4/17/2008 8:41 PM
Case #: 04172008-000327  Int. Ref. #:  Disposition: FACILITIES NOTIFIED
Notes: IIT MAIN CAMPUS EXPERIENCED A TEMPORARY POWER OUTAGE TO HERMAN HALL, FARR HALL AND IITRI TOWER. FACILITIES NOTIFIED.

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Submit articles at technews.iit.edu.
Deadline is Saturday at midnight.
**Tuesday, April 22**

**English Conversation Program:** *“Talk Time”*
12:50-1:50pm, Wishnick Hall 116

Come to join a casual meeting where you can discuss a variety of cultural issues with international students. Domestic and international students, faculty and staff are welcome to participate. Bring your own lunch. Dessert and drinks provided. R.S.V.P to audinson@iit.edu.

**IIT Research Day / Sigma Xi Lecture**
1-4:30pm, MTCC Auditorium & Ballroom

This is held to celebrate the diverse research activities that takes place across campus. After a poster competition, the Sigma Xi Lecture is held. This year's speaker is Dr. Raymond Blair from Argonne National Laboratory, his lecture is entitled “Leadership Computing at Argonne.”

**Thursday, April 24**

**IIT Archives Inaugural Lecture**
1:00-4:00pm, Galvin Library, Lower Level

IIT Archives invites faculty, staff, and students to the event, Longevity: Connecting Illinois Institute of Technology’s past and future. Please RSVP for the event to sboscamp@iit.edu.

**Shimer Brown Bag Discussion**

12:15-1:15pm, Shimer Classroom

Shimer College welcomes all IIT and IITRI staff to a brown bag lunch discussion of *The United States of America vs. Susan B. Anthony and “Woman wants bread, not ballots,” with Associate Dean Ann Doolin.*

**Physics Colloquium: Science Education in the 21st Century Must Be Different**
3:35pm, Life Sciences 111

Our world is in the process of radical change. All of the major issues facing the nation are woven with scientific and technological sides. Preserving democracy and achieving a viable lifestyle will require a higher degree of public science literacy than now exists.

**Friday, April 25**

**Chemistry Colloquium**

11:25am, Life Sciences 111

“Gold Nanoclusters, Conformationally Constrained Peptides, and Electron Transfer” Flavio Maran, University of Padova, Department of Chemistry

**ISA Cultural nIITe**

7:00pm-1:00am, HUB Auditorium

Come for a night of culture, sponsored by the Indian Students Association!

**Saturday, April 26**

**Chicago Undergraduate Research Symposium**

HUB

The event will celebrate the hard work and research of undergraduates from six Chicago area institutions. Visit caars.com for more details.

**The Secondary and 2Mas**

9:00pm, the BOG

Well known at IIT, the jazz/hip hop/pop rock fusion group The Secondary are teaming up with 2-Mas, an inventive solo rapper from Jersey.

**Sunday, April 27**

**March of Dimes, March for Babies (Omega Delta)**

8:00am-1:00pm, Grant Park

Omega Delta Fraternity at IIT will be walking in the March of Dimes’ March for Babies (formerly WalkAmerica), starting at Grant Park.

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**IIT Spring Formal 2008**

*By Paul Spears*

*OPINION EDITOR*

This year’s spring formal was an exciting, refreshing IIT social experience properly tailored to its students.

Not normally a fan of student organized social events, I was quite surprised at the turn out and excitement of the student body. As all the participants were being shunted to the event (on a rather cozy charter bus) students and guests were able to mingle and chat while exploring a few of the planetariums exhibits and enjoy the view of the skyline. When everyone had arrived we were treated to a deliciously catered three course meal of salad, a very nice chicken breast in a wonderful marinade or a bed of polenta (an Italian cornbread cake) as a gluten free, vegetarian alternative, and much to listen to without leaving their sitting area.

One of the most surprising details of the evening was the playlist. This is the first IIT event I have attended at which the music was spot on for the crowd. A mix of classic 90’s dance with a few more recent pop songs and a larger song as well. I actually on the dance floor - there was not enough room for everyone. This level of participation continued throughout the evening from song to song as well.

However, every event is bound to have its flaws. The cash bar was a bit overpriced, as you would pay six bucks for a mixed drink and two dollars for a can of soda, if you wanted a non-alcoholic alternative to water. The only major complaint I had, however, was a logistical issue with the venue. The dining/sitting area was split with a divider of about 100 feet, completely separating the guests into two different areas. With that there was only one dance floor and sound stage, leaving those in the back without much to listen to without leaving their sitting area.

Despite the issues involving the venue the spring formal was a great success. I spent the evening completely unaware that I attend a university that suffers from apathetic paralysis. Instead I experienced an excited, energized evening with a student body that was dancing, socializing and enjoying the company of their fellow students. It’s not often I say this, but thank you UB for an awesome event.
By women, for women: the Illinois Tech Women's Commission

continued from front
everyone from the community will benefit from the work of the commission. The committee is open to members of all campuses and at all levels in the community.

By Sara Sustersic

The following weekend, the sisters of Kappas had their annual spring retreat, this year held in Ottawa, Ill. This is a weekend in which sisters spend time with one another, hanging out and sharing laughs and strengthening the bonds that already exist between one another. It is also a developmental opportunity for the new members, teaching them more about the sorority and offering them a chance to better know other members. This year, sister Karen Nelson is credited with organizing this special event. She handled the logistics for the event and made sure that everyone and everything was safe.

Kappa's upcoming event will be an Alumni Tea Party, to be held this Sunday (April 26th). During the event, organized by sister Sarah Wahlstrom Helgren. Current and former Kappa members are invited to come together and share their memories and experiences both in Kappa and at ITWC. The event will take place in the Kappa house on 31st Street.

How to recession-proof your job

By Emily L. Breckenridge

Whether we’re in a recession or just a slump, it’s currently the hot button issue being debated across the country. Recession or not, there’s no doubt that wallets across America are tightening, and that may include your employer’s. Don’t wait to find out. Here are some guidelines to make sure that you’re name doesn’t get added to the lay-off list.

Increased Your Visibility and Value

- Volunteer for projects, take on extra work, and talk up your contributions without being irritating. If you’re indispensable, and your supervisors know it, you won’t get the ax. The more hats you can wear, the better, because you might have to wear even more once positions are vacated. Show them that you can handle it.

Stay Positive
- You may be putting in extra hours, but don’t whine about it. Only bring attention to yourself through positive actions. A happy worker is someone that every manager wants to keep. If you seem unhappy, your manager may think he/she is doing you a favor by laying you off.

Make Your Name Known
- Your boss's boss needs to know who you are, and how you contribute. If your boss gets laid off, you don’t want your name to go with him/her. Prepare for the Worst
- Despite your best efforts, you may still get laid off. Be prepared for that to happen by increasing your networking activities, updating your resume, and keeping an eye on the opportunities at the companies in your industry that are doing well. If you have questions about how to recession-proof your job, or any advice on your career, contact us at cncm@iit.edu or 312-567-4800.

ACE Racing team ready for second championship

By women, for women: the Illinois Tech Women's Commission

continued from front
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By Sara Sustersic

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Economical luxury. I am sure you have heard that phrase and if you have, I would be hugely surprised if you heard it in the context of cars. Luxury cars are meant to be flamboyant and conspicuously large. They are supposed to make you feel at home at a hotel. Once you think of luxury, brands like Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Audi, Lexus, Cadillac, Rolls Royce and Bentley might come to mind. That, and that you need to be a deep-pocketed businessman/entrepreneur to own one.

All that aside, what the hell does economical luxury mean? Take a look at the F700 research (concept) car. Based on the current S-class platform and measuring 5.17 meters long, the F700 is Mercedes look into the future. The car Mercedes-Benz spent about 8-10 million dollars on, so that they could have a new car to show off in the 2007 Frankfurt Auto Show.

Let's first talk about the outer design of the car. You will immediately notice the huge front radiator grille, the headlamps, and the bump that is coming out of the top that makes it look like a twin-fin shark. It has a massive windscreen, 13- spoke alloy wheels, and if you look a little closer, brakes on the inside of the wheel.

Now, the technology bit. The F700 is Mercedes-Benz's answer to Albert Gore, Jr. It is also the answer to Mr. Zetchel's question, "What is our next luxury car?" The four-cylinder 1.8-liter engine is said to give a milage of 44.3mpg and emits a minute 127 grams per kilometer of CO2 emissions. Advanced DIESOTTO technologies, with controlled auto-ignition, direct fuel injection and turbocharging, help deliver the required power on the road. At the same time, it has a great fuel economy, meeting America's CAFE standards. The most amazing thing is that this engine can achieve the performance levels of the current S-Class car, which has a 3.5-liter engine. The engine output, which is also helped in power by an electric motor, produces a maximum of 258hp with a maximum torque of 400Nm.

Dr Thomas Weber, technological guru/board member at Daimler AG, says it is all thanks to DIESOTTO technology. The car also has higher standards of comfort for the passenger because of the two laser scanners present in the PRE-SCAN suspension system which reacts to the bumps in the roads before the car even reaches the bumps. The hydraulically controlled active suspension proactively gives a very smooth 'flyng carpet' ride. The best bit is the rear seats, which can be positioned opposite to the direction of travel, giving the car maximum interior space.

All in all, if Mercedes-Benz puts this car into production within the next ten years, they shouldn't have to worry about sales. What they should worry about is the price tag - or is that what the customer should worry about? That's up to you to decide.

The Blackberry Pearl by T-Mobile.

By Abhishek Gundugurti

TECHNEWS WRITER

In 2007, T-Mobile came up with a way to improve cellular communication by providing a service called HotSpot@Home. The service allowed Wi-Fi enabled phones to make calls via a Wi-Fi network, thereby improving cell phone reception and reducing call costs. Unfortunately, at that time few Wi-Fi enabled phones were available, including the Samsung T409, the Nokia 6086 and other forgettable models. But now, RIM has finally brought the much-awaited RIM BlackBerry Pearl 8120 for T-Mobile to the market. What's best is that using your new Blackberry Pearl and the HotSpot@Home service, you can make unlimited Wi-Fi calls as long as you are within range of the HotSpot@Home carrier.

Not only is it unlimited, it is also free!

Before we dive into the features of the phone, let's run a brief background check on the benefits of the HotSpot@Home service, as compatibility with this service is the major advantage the Pearl 8120 phone has to offer. As long as you are within range, the HotSpot@Home service allows you to make and receive calls. Should we move out of our comfort zone and are no longer in the vicinity of the router, we can switch to GSM mode in order to continue our call smoothly, with some minor pauses and disturbance. This switching is enabled by the presence of preconfigured wireless access points. The reason that not all mobile phones are fit to use this service is that the service only works with Unlicensed Mobile Access (UMA) phones. These phones have features which enable the user to switch between the modes, thereby supporting both GSM as well as Wi-Fi service.

Enough with history - let's get back to the good stuff! The BlackBerry Pearl 8120 is not just compatible with T-Mobile's routers, but also with routers made by Apple and ZyXel. This is a major advantage, as the previous models could only work with T-Mobile routers, making it impossible to make Wi-Fi calls away from home. Using some basic hardshaking and cell transfer routines, the phone makes an easy transition between cell phone network providers in order to ensure a continuous Wi-Fi signal, without compromising all quality and continuity.

The Pearl 8120 is compatible with the T-Mobile carrier's BlackBerry desktop 7.0 software, which is present in most of your frequent contacts for unlimited calling, regardless of carrier.

Some convincing talk on HotSpot@Home compatibility resulted in less work on aesthetics. The Pearl 8120 is no different than the original Pearl, with the same appearance and keyboard and even the same text prediction software - the SureType algorithm, with minor improvements that are not exactly apparent the first time you use them. It weighs around 3.2 ounces and measures 4.2 inches tall and 1.9 inches wide, giving it a slim and trendy look. It is an absolute breeze to carry around, as it fits almost anywhere. The screen measure 2.2 inches and has a resolution of 240x260 pixels. Push-buttons are conveniently located on the right side of the phone, with a push-to-talk button that launches voice dialing and one-button access to the camera and volume. There is also a headphone jack, along with a USB port on the left. The mute button is located on the top side of the phone.

The Pearl 8120's camera has a 2 megapixel resolution, a 5x zoom, and built-in color and lighting adjustment. The camera doesn't provide photographic quality, but is sufficient and surprisingly good for outdoor shots. The camera lens and flash are on the back of the phone. It also comes with video recording, which records at 12 frames per second - but leave it face; there are better phones than the Pearl 8120 for video recording.

Another advantage of Wi-Fi compatibility is that the Pearl 8120 can be used for web surfing as well. Famous for its email and text features, Blackberry continues to excel with the Pearl 8120. You can send real time emails and even integrate up to eight POP3 or IMAP4 email accounts. Moreover, you can choose to sync your phone contacts and tasks with Outlook or Lotus Notes. Riplio software is included in the package, which enables opening and viewing files with common file extensions. The OpenMini 4.1 browser is recommended for an enhanced browsing experience.

The Pearl 8120 also offers regular calling features in case you want to make a call the plain old way. Features available include smart dialing, voice activated-calling, conference calling and text and multimedia messaging. You can store up to 250 contacts and can even personalize your contacts by designing a picture or assigning separate ringtones for each individual contact. You can choose from 45 built-in polyphonic ringtones.

The Pearl 8120 also has some good news for music enthusiasts - the phone is equipped with a media player that supports mp3, wma and wma for audio and mp3 or jpeg for video. You can listen to music with headphones, but the phone also supports Bluetooth for a surround sound experience.

By Kamakshi Palakodaty

TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Image 1: The Blackberry Pearl 8120.

Image 2: The Mercedes-Benz designs for the F 700 concept car.
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Review: Forgetting Sarah Marshall

By Andres De La Hoz
A&E EDITOR

Forgetting Sarah Marshall will probably be another hit for the Judd Apatow crew, and deservedly so. Starring Jason Segel, who worked on the series Freaks and Geeks and Undeclared, the movie is full of great comedy - but more importantly, an engaging storyline with interesting, funny characters.

The film deals with a two-bit film composer, Peter, attempting to forget his ex, the actress Sarah Marshall, a two-bit star of a CSI/SVU clone. Peter heads off to Hawaii to relax himself, but finds Sarah there with her new beau, Aldous Snow, a ridiculous Scott Stapp type. Peter gets involved in many situations with them, and meets a variety of colorful characters. Most importantly, he meets a woman named Rachel, whom he slowly hits it off with, and must decide where his priorities are.

Forgetting Sarah Marshall is a successful comedy. The film is packed with jokes. There are many hilarious set pieces, starting off with the breakup scene, where there is far more male nudity than audiences are used to. Apatow regulars Paul Rudd and Jonah Hill have short roles, and the movie manages to be funny while avoiding too much of a reliance on gross-out humor or digressions. If there's anything to complain, it's that it runs a little too long, which deflates some of the comedy, but it ends with one of the best gags of the whole film.

If Forgetting Sarah Marshall were just funny, it wouldn't be much. The movie is also very well written. The characters are all more than just cardboard cutouts. It would have been very easy to make Sarah Marshall the horrible villain ex, but she actually has some depth to her and as an audience, it's easy to sympathize with her as she had to put up with Peter, the flawed hero. It's somewhat understandable that someone could be fed up with him. Even Aldous goes beyond the mere one-note joke and becomes a full-blown character, still remaining incredibly over the top. Probably the best performance comes from Mila Kunis as Rachel, who is very engaging throughout the entire film and steals every scene she is in.

Just like previous Apatow-produced films, the success lies in the audience being engaged with the characters and wanting them to have a happy ending. Behind all the laughter and all the nonsense lies a cute story, well-told.

Looptopia, be there or be square

By Sara Sustersic
TECHNEWS WRITER

You might ask, “What the heck is Looptopia?!” with a puzzled look on your face. Looptopia is an overnight celebration that transforms and energizes the Loop with a wide variety of entertainment. This event was first held last year, an American debut, if you will. It was widely inspired by “White Night” events in cities like Rome, Paris, and Madrid. As we all know, Chicago is the best city in this country, so there is little doubt why this we started this thing (Also, in case you can’t tell, I am a Chicago native).

This year, on Friday, May 2, Chicago’s Loop will be transformed into a “sensory playground celebrating arts, culture, architecture and insomniacs alike” (http://www.looptopia.com/looptopia.php). It will occur over the course of 14 hours and include 300 artists and 100 venues in different locations throughout the Loop. There is a little bit of something for everyone, so be sure to check out the events at looptopia.com.

I understand you might have some more questions. I will attempt to clear up a few of them. All Looptopia events are free. After midnight, however, wristbands are required to attend events at late night venues. You can get these wristbands at any information booth, which are scattered throughout the Loop. There is also a “Where To Eat, Drink, Stay, Shop” section on the website detailing which restaurants and bars are participating in this event. Be sure to check this out so you know what places to visit. The best way to get there is to take our dear, beloved Green Line. A few stops and you’re already there - what more can you ask for?

For more information, be sure to check out the website. Think of this as a sort of rebellion against studying for finals. Just remember, be there or be square.
Across
1. Natural soother
2. Breakfast staple
3. K-12, in education
4. Vice follower
5. Contract killer
6. New Mexico county
7. Regrets
8. Discover
9. Malice
10. Relief
11. Walkway
12. Hatcher of “Desperate Housewives”
13. Tiara wearer
14. Trunk item
15. Field of study
16. Sponge cake ingredient
17. Provoke
18. Computer file suffix
19. Model
20. School of the future?
22. Deli item
23. Chang’s conjoined twin
24. Obedience school command
25. Desktop pictures
26. “___ in Black”
27. Call ___ day
28. Small bag
29. Mr. Onassis
30. Ballad
31. Understand
32. Carnival city
33. Convention handout
34. Tuneful
35. Big party
36. Audible outbreath
37. British ___
38. Mean
39. “Gimme ___!” (start of an Iowa State cheer)
40. Alcoves
41. Pack animal
42. Carpentry tool
43. Reignite
44. Slipped up
45. Thumb
46. Chop off
47. Tranquility
48. Do better than expected
49. Rant and rave
50. Huge
51. Campaign worker
52. ___ Minor
53. Implications
54. Religious offshoot
55. Yarn

Down
1. More than enough
2. Breakfest staple
3. K-12, in education
4. Vice follower
5. Contract killer
6. New Mexico county
7. Campus military org.
8. Discover
9. Malice
10. Relief
11. Walkway
12. Hatcher of “Desperate Housewives”
13. Tiara wearer
14. Trunk item
15. Field of study
16. Sponge cake ingredient
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54. Religious offshoot
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Good Night Sudoku

The Slipstick

The Slipstick
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY BRINGS YOU THE

TEAM SKILLS REGATTA

DATE:
SUNDAY APRIL 27

TIME:
1:30PM - 4:00PM

SUPPLIES:
DUCT TAPE
GARBAGE BAGS
CARDBOARD BOXES

LOCATION:
LIFE SCIENCES
ROOM 111

REGISTER:
LEADERSHIPACADEMY.IIT.EDU
LEADERSHIPACADEMY@IIT.EDU
312.567.3954
By Abhishek Gundugurti

Volkswagen of America, Inc. last week announced the final entry list in its new Jetta TDI Cup series. In an attempt to be part of the rich American racing series culture, VW CEO Stefan Jacoby announced a list of 30 drivers who will race in 2009 Jetta TDI clean diesels.

The racing series is an attempt by VW to appeal to American racing enthusiasts with a fascination for German racing cars. The drivers, all between 16 and 27, will drive cars that VW claims are revolutionary because they're each powered by a 2-litre, four-cylinder Turbo Diesel Injection clean engine. The car itself is slightly modified to incorporate race-ready suspension, brakes and a six-speed DSG transmission. The Cup series is sanctioned by the prestigious Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) Pro Racing Inc.

Talking about the series, Jacoby said "We're offering a unique opportunity for some of the best and brightest drivers to get their start in a factory-backed racing series. Through an exhausting driver evaluation process, we looked at a variety of factors including driving ability and potential, media and communication skills and overall fit, to choose the 30 best drivers to help promote Volkswagen and the introduction of our all-new 50-state clean diesel Jetta TDI, and ultimately themselves."

VW claims that the Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup series is an innovative approach to motorsports because the 30 factory-prepared and managed 2009 Jetta TDI clean-diesels will be piloted by talented, up-and-coming drivers. Their goal, they say, is to find the most talented driver and help them break into the world of professional motorsports. In the end, the winner of the race series will be awarded $100,000 from Volkswagen to aid them in their next steps as a professional racer.

An additional $150,000 will be given to the winner if he or she signs a contract with a professional-level team within six months of winning the Jetta TDI Cup series.

Baseball: Tough loss to Trinity Christian

By Stephanie Herrera

SPORTS EDITOR

Hawks Baseball played conference foe Trinity Christian on Thursday. The Hawks were unable to get off to a good start, going scoreless for three innings. Trinity scored 2 runs in the first inning and 2 in the third inning.

Illinois Tech went on a 4 run streak in the fourth, fifth and sixth inning. They were unable to score after that, but allowed Trinity to score 2 more runs in the fifth and 2 more in the eighth, leaving the score 4-8 for the game.

Jesse Stepniewski pitched for all eight innings played and had 4 strike-outs, 11 hits and 6 walks. The Hawks had 11 hits for the game to ITT's 8. The Hawks had four guys stranded on the bases for the game total.

Dustin Reznick had 3 hits for the game, a double in the first, a double in the fourth and a single in the sixth.

Garrett Nielson had 10 put-outs at first and Matt Bednarz had 1 hit and 2 RBI's in one sequence, sending Hotz and Kungis home on a single in the sixth inning.

Patrick Ennes had a double to start the fifth inning and an assist. Bill O'Toole had a hit in the fifth inning which resulted in an RBI.

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Both teams shared one error apiece for the game. The Hawks are now 6-16-0 and 2-5 in conference. Catch the next game against Trinity Christian on Tuesday, April 22 at 3:30pm on the Hawks' home field. Then, on Saturday, April 26th the Hawks face Olivet Nazarene in a double header, starting at 12:00pm.

Unusual sport of Buzkashi

By Stephanie Herrera

SPORTS EDITOR

Traditional played in Central Asia, Buzkashi is a sport that's similar to polo. Its translation means "goat grabbing," which fully explains the concept of the game. The match is played on horseback and the object is to secure the carcass of a headless goat or any animal of choice, depending on what country you are in, to the goal line of the other team.

The match is played on horseback and the object is to secure the carcass of a headless goat or any animal of choice, depending on what country you are in, to the goal line of the other team. In terms of organization or rules of the game - there really aren't many. If there are, they are not clearly displayed in a typical match of Buzkashi. It is typically a chaotic match of 14 men and horses riding at full speed hitting a headless carcass around a field about the same size as a polo field. Although polo is usually played on grass, this unusual sport is played in dirt. Other names for this sport include Kok-boru or Oglak Tartis.

Do you know sports?

The Cubs take the field song for 2007 was by Van Halen. What song was it?

A. Jump
B. Panama
C. 1984
D. Eruption

Answer in next week's issue.
Answer to last week's question: B. Alan Trammell.
Register early and win!
Register early for Fall 2008 classes and get a chance to win an iPod Touch or an iTunes gift card.

- **April 14–25**: Make an appointment with your advisor
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- **April 25**: Contest ends at midnight!

Fall 2008 semester begins on Thursday, August 21.

For more information
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Early Registration Program Details
Program offered to all continuing undergraduate students who have registered for classes through Web for Students/myIIT portal by midnight April 25, 2008.
Winners will be notified by email and announced in Tech News.