Illinois Institute of Technology students first traveled to Haiti in August 2006, accompanied by IIT Vice President of External Affairs, David Baker, and Professor of Environmental Engineering, Dr. Kristiana Papilla. With the help of the Haiti Outreach, a non-governmental organization based in Minnesota, they identified potential projects where engineering students could make a positive difference in the lives of Haitian people.

One of these projects was building an addition to the public secondary school of Lycee Nationale in the market town of Pignon, Haiti.

Haiti struggles to increase its population’s literacy rate above 50%. Most schools are private, and the tuition of about $70 per student is too expensive for families to afford considering their low income combined with the high cost of food. The fees of a public school are usually only $5 per student. The walls of Lycee Nationale de Pignon were built with Haitian government funds, but there was not enough money to build a roof. Haiti Outreach supplied the money to finish the building in 2003. By 2006, the school was over-crowded and additional classrooms were needed.

An interdisciplinary team of architecture and civil engineering students designed the additional building to have 5 more classrooms, a library, and computer lab during an IPRO program. Haiti Outreach raised funds to build the addition, and the project began construction in 2007. It was around this time that the Engineers Without Borders chapter at IIT was forming under the direction of Dr. Papilla.

It was suggested that EWB-IIT complete the project that other students already started. Lycee Nationale de Pignon was designed to have a computer lab, but there is no power grid in the town to supply the school with electricity. Students sit in dim classrooms with little sunlight shining through the slat windows. After researching some of the electrical systems currently used in rural Haiti, the team proposed to design a system powered by solar energy.

In the Fall of 2007, several members from our chapter visited the monthly meeting of the Chicagoland Professional Chapter to ask for project assistance. Coincidentally, EWB member Tom DelVecchio was the featured speaker, and he gave a presentation about his experience designing and installing a stand alone photovoltaic system in Gambia, West Africa. Tom agreed to be the professional mentor for our student design team, a role which he has been dedicated to ever since.

Adam Nizich, EWB-IIT’s project director, and I had the opportunity to travel to Haiti in January 2008 with another group of IIT students working on a water project with Haiti Outreach. While we were there, we met with directors of Lycee Nationale de Pignon to discuss their hopes for the school’s future. They told us that internet access in the school would not only enhance the education of its current students, but may help them receive national funding to run a technical school from the computer lab.

Throughout the design process, EWB-IIT has been in contact with Lycee Nationale de Pignon to discuss their hopes for the school’s future. They told us that internet access in the school would not only enhance the education of its current students, but may help them receive national funding to run a technical school from the computer lab.

Matt has continued helping our design team by providing updates on the construction of the school addition and delivering communications between the school and our team.

The finished design for the photovoltaic system will incorporate 24 solar panels, 6 batteries, and an inverter, which will provide enough electricity to the new building for 8 lights per classroom and 10 laptop computers. The next challenge for our chapter is raising enough funds to implement our project in August. The estimated project cost is $19,000 excluding the necessary title the more unnecessary the act. Although that rule may not be universal, from the audience’s responses, it will work for this case.

The Sketch Comedy group, Big Dog Eat Child, roused complaints and angry emails directed at the Union Board BOG programmer, Hanza Ondal. He reported that within his experience with the BOG, this was arguably one of the worst performances. As you may easily surmise, the tragedy from this evening was the failed laugh factory from Chicago.

Now, to transition to the nights success, I gracefully introduce Baron Vaughn. This solo act from NYC had the crowd going consistently from start to finish. His act covered the spectrum of interesting and edgy topics. Of course there were the traditional race and sex jokes, but each came with it’s own twist: a self-deprecating and refreshing effect. These noises weren’t the mild annoyances that many comedians rely on to make it through an hour; these transported the audience to all the fanciful places that this eccentric comedian told of. From KKK meetings being invaded by an oblivious non-member to creativity in the grocery check-out counter, Vaughn involved the audience the way a skillful teacher conducts a classroom. With careful prompting and an knack for improvisation, this man could keep a joke from nowhere going for a good five minutes in a pinch. Even the inevitable awkward transitions were filled with variety show like entertainment.

This year’s BOG was a success! The BOG committee is currently planning next year’s BOG. The theme is yet to be decided, but the official BOG Facebook page, IIT BOG, is currently being updated with pictures of the events. The committee is always looking for more people to help out. The BOG committee is comprised of upperclassmen and it is the only student organization that allows upperclassmen to run for a student position! So if you are an upperclassman and want to help out, contact one of the BOG committee members today! We are always looking for new members. Anybody can help out! Thanks to everyone who came out to help support the BOG’s cause! The BOG is looking forward to another successful year and hopes to keep up the tradition of helping IIT students find scholarships.
Dear SexTech,

My girlfriend and I have been together for 3 years and have been doing wonderfully. However, over the last 6 months or so she has been dressing in a very masculine manner. As we are both lesbians her almost convincing masculine appearance has become quite the turn on, and I would love to see her back in her pink gym outfit or her cute bedtime pajamas.

How do I tell her that I am no longer attracted to her wearing those outfits? I don’t want to hurt her feelings, but I also want to be honest with her. If anyone out there has some sort of insight on this please feel free to send me an email and clue me in. Anyway, now that I have that out of my system let’s address your question. Play dress up. If she can wear the same size clothing as you have her try on something of yours that you like, and let her know how good she looks in it. If she doesn’t fit into your pants take her shopping and give her a nice slap on the ass and a compliment when she tries on something that you approve of. Ask her to wear something that you like from her wardrobe. This will most likely give her the hint that you don’t particularly care for the bro look that she has gained a liking for. If she is a little more headstrong than most you can always be a little more blunt by telling her, “If I were attracted to guys I would have been dating one already, please take a bath, and wear something else.” But, I would probably save that one for last.

Sincerely,

SexTech Staff

Dear Susan,

As a heterosexual male I have always been confused by gay women that date other women whom have taken on a more masculine appearance. Why would someone actively attempt to gain a look of the opposing sex to their mates liking? It doesn’t make any sense. If someone out there has some sort of reasoning I would love to hear your thoughts.

Sincerely,

SexTech

Dear SexTech,

Stick-it-to-her Susan

Sincerely,

My girlfriend and I have been together for 3 years and have been doing wonderfully. However, over the last 6 months or so she has been dressing in a very masculine manner. As we are both lesbians her almost convincing masculine appearance has become quite the turn on, and I would love to see her back in her pink gym outfit or her cute bedtime pajamas.

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Sincerely,

SexTech Staff

Dear TechNews:

I have a question for TechNews. How do I let her know nicely that the image she is wearing is not flattering? I would love to see her back in her pink gym outfit or her cute bedtime pajamas.

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Sincerely,
Speaking
By Linda Goldstein
CONTENT MANAGER

Welcome to IIT, welcome to your own semester number whatever, welcome to another few inches of snow and the peaceful sight of the first set of snow-footprints on the front walk of MV. I warn you: I’m overly cheerful and totally on the new energy drink “Crash,” but I’ll be happy to tell you: it’s true; it happens to work well with my biochemistry. Don’t try it if you want steady hands.

Talking of “IIT,” we just had Compass Weekend, where potential recipients of the Compass scholarship come to campus for a few days to be entertained in style by the University, from free cafeteria meals for them and their parents to open access to administrators from normally secretive departments on campus. This time, a lot of the offices (most of which coincidentally also interest ordinary IIT students) had tables on the MTCC Bridge during lunch. But my favorite part of Compass Weekend was the panel discussion in the MTCC Auditorium, where six IIT students sat behind microphones and answered questions from Compass students and parents-mostly parents. Questions were almost entirely academic, and sometimes statistical. “How is IIT’s -- program ranked?” was a common question, and the answer that we behind the microphone gave to each other with surprising uniformity was “erm, we have no idea. How do we know? Does it matter?” I think that the real question that those parents were asking was “is this school good enough? Is it better than the other schools?”

One question that I’m grateful no one asked is “If you knew then what you knew now... would you pick IIT?” Any pause in answering that question would have been too long for the nerves of the hovering Admissions officers. The truth is that don’t know if I would have done things differently; I’ve never gone to another university full-time. The truth is that maybe the answer is yes, but that there’s no way to tell. Also, the IPRF program came up a lot in these discussions, usually as the answer to various questions. Research was also a hot topic, apparently IIT has a lot of it. “Research” seems to me to cover a lot of topics, from poking things into beakers in labs, to beating your brain against a pile of books at the library. Research is “finding things out.”

Speaking of finding out new things, Union Board’s programmers have discovered some interesting comedians this semester. I think that everyone was a little amazed to hear someone have never performed at IIT before should be given a link to the archives of the XKKD webcomic, with instructions to read the entire thing and try to keep their feet out of their mouths. Also, can we have Nice Peter back?

Speaking of entertainment, last Thursday I sat in the 4-6pm WIT radio show Origins, which plays world music. I love Celtic fiddle rock, and the WIT radio broadcasting station in the MTCC has great lighting and stage photography. It seems like everyone has a radio show nowadays, which is great for providing variety.

Speaking of variety, I’m going on the Alternative Spring Break trip to Foley, Alabama. Fifteen or so of us are going to build houses, sleep on the floor in a church, and chill on the beach when we can. I have three times the length of what I’ll be like, although I’ve read the booklet. I’m doing it because I felt like I needed to do something useful, something that I can use to justify my sitting in front of a computer for so many of my waking hours. I want to be able to take a picture of a house and know that I’m the one who helped put it together because sometimes I’d rather make real waves in the real world, rather than tangle with the body than to be exhausted with the mind.

Speaking of not sitting in front of a computer, I went to work this Saturday morning in Perlestein Hall, where around thirty undergraduate students talked about their progress in interviewing alumni for the Velocity Initiative. Many alumni who are interviewed by members of the Velocity Initiative express interest in becoming connected with IIT, especially by sharing their years of expertise through giving a guest lecture. I’d forgotten that meetings or work could actually be inspiring. Also, Professor John B. Anderson and Provost Crumb both stopped in briefly, which was really cool.

There is a seed of an idea floating around the university, and that idea is to have a farmers market at IIT, probably in the middle of the week or so, possibly right in the middle of the parks around campus. The next step might be to talk to the 3rd Ward Alderman and to IIT administrators, especially those involved in community relations. Consulting Public Safety might also be a must in the planning process. I’m not sure that having a farmers’ market would be worth the meetings that would need to be arranged in advance. Of course, cause, but it’d probably bring in income for the university, and having fresh fruit as a weekly option (not to mention kettle corn and possibly candied beets!) would make me very happy. Although Sodexo provides a certain amount of fresh fruit, the budgetary constraints of having to feed thousands of people is a total downer when it comes to variety, pizazz, and expensive or out-of-season things like kiwi, strawberries, cherries, pears, and passionfruit.

Speaking of variety, I like so many others am looking for an apartment. I love housing a lot and it’s great for the freshmen, but there are undoubted potential for living in a more private environment that I am becoming less and less willing to waste time on — like bay windows, cute little furry pets, reliable internet, prompt fixes for broken windowshades, and living near a place that serves hot food all night.

This week and (mostly) always, I love my university, actually because I was lucky enough to get into the Science Fiction class this semester. I have a paper on the graphic novel Watchmen due on Monday. I was very happy that I’m getting three credits for analyzing science fiction, which I usually do for fun and not for any given assignment. But don’t ask me about Unix shells unless you want to hear about why I need to stop using PuTTY.

Most people think that the pro-life movement is solely about eradicating abortion. While I would love to see the day when there is no longer the call, or the need, for abortion, the movement is about much more than that. It’s about transforming the culture into one that values every human life.

We have heard many insults and accusations while actively advocating for the unborn. Some of these accusations are thought-provoking, but most are ridiculous claims spoken in anger. One such argument is: “You pro-lifers don’t care about women. Where are you after the baby is born?” The simplest answer: Check out a local Crisis Pregnancy Center (CPC). Students for Life sponsored the Baby Bottle Project last semester to support the Women’s Center. This center, along with hundreds of others, has dozens of free or reduced-cost services for women who come seeking the help and support they so desperately need. Unlike Planned Parenthood and other “pro-choice” clinics, CPCs do not receive government funding and must therefore rely on the generosity of donors and volunteers. There are also many individuals who have opened their own homes to mothers and families in need.

If you would like more information about the pro-life movement, have a question or comment, or want to get involved, we would love to hear from you! Please send an email to studentlife@iit.edu. I leave you with a quote from Planned Parenthood, ten years before abortion was legalized in this country. “An abortion kills the life of the baby after it has begun. It is dangerous to your life and health!” (“Plan Your Children for Health and Happiness,” brochure of Planned Parenthood-World Population, New York, 1963).

The call of the MMO
By Erik Johnson
TECHNEWS WRITER

I did it again... I didn’t mean to, it just sort of snuck up on me. There’s a brief period of an almost flirtatious relationship, until it falls full on you in the face and you drop that for fifteen bucks. After that, it’s easy – you’ve already put time into it, may as well put more into it! Auh, heck, who needs money? I’ll skip dinner today! Before you know it, you’re in for the long haul, practically married. They’re dedicated too. Whenever you want, they’re there! All I’ve got to do is turn on my computer, and log onto EVE Online.

There are others sure, World of Warcraft, Lord of the Rings Online, Star Wars Galaxies, Age of Conan – all sorts of digital time sinks that are truly addicted that they’re throwing putting anyone in danger, that just want to enjoy the whole “virtual world where I can be a pretty elf princess” business. But those that aren’t putting anyone in danger, that just want to enjoy their game for hours, why harass them about their along with hundreds across the nation, has been shut up too much of my wallet, and I stopped.

However, a lot of people have problems with MMOs. Some folks shut themselves up and only leave for the occasional cherno or two. Within weeks, they’re labeled terrible recluses – friends have hissy fits when their pal’s who now become an Orc on the internet doesn’t want to go play Frisbee with their orangutan.

Now, I’m all in favor of showing those that are truly addicted that they’re throwing their lives away. Some people with addictive personalities might not quite respond well to the whole “virtual world where I can be a pretty elf princess” business. But to those that aren’t putting anyone in danger, that just want to enjoy their game for hours, why harass them about their along with hundreds across the nation, has been shut up too much of my wallet, and I stopped.

This week the author had a hiatus to do field investigation of a new martial arts club on campus. Check out the Campus section to read about the club and her experiences. Vis-a-vis will be back next week, by which time the author will hopefully have recovered from some extreme soreness.
Abortion: quite defendable, thank you

By Romaine Safman

TECHNEWS WRITER

When I opened TechNews last week, the opinion piece on abortion caught my eye. It was presented as an intellectual discussion, and I read on hungrily. Unfortunately, in my view, it was turned out to be a straw man argument. According to Wikipedia (2/21/2009), a “straw man argument” is “an informal fallacy based on misrepresentation of an opponent’s position” and then knocking it down. Since a straw man argument cannot fight back, it clearly invalidates the response. An attempt to build up the other end of the “discussion.”

“But Pro-choice is not Pro-Abortion…”

The issue, in fact, is not about fetuses but about women’s rights. There is a wonderful professor of Feminist Studies at Shimer that can explain this much better than me, but here is a brief summary. Women were, and often still are, objects to be owned by their men. They couldn’t choose to make a life for themselves, and they couldn’t control getting pregnant. Even with the advent of birth control and condoms, there are many social pressures against the female sex being able to choose when and how to get pregnant. The issue is one of women trying to do everything in their power to re-assert control over their own bodies. Therefore, the movement is pro-choice. This is just not about fetuses. This is about the female sex, the right to speak of fetuses—"But the fetuses is not human—..."I doubt if the baby feels pain."

These two really belong together. The argument is that fetuses deserve the same rights and protections as the humans in which they grow. Let me attack the pain argument first. I am willing to assume that fetuses feel pain, however. So do cows. I eat steak. It is likely that so do you. The difference, in our minds, is mostly an evolutionary one. We perceive babies as cute for a reason. They are our future reproductions. They are the next generation. They need to live. They need to have rights. They need to be treated with the same respect and care that we treat our children. These two really belong together.

Life begins at conception

By David Bern

TECHNEWS WRITER

Well, that’s not entirely true. Life is already well underway at conception. Both eggs and sperm are living and continue to develop from the moment they are created. The difference, in our minds, is mostly an evolutionary one. We perceive babies as cute for a reason. They are our future reproductions. They are the next generation. They need to live. They need to have rights. They need to be treated with the same respect and care that we treat our children. These two really belong together.
By Vladilena Gaisina

Did you know that students aren’t the only ones who have ITT rules neatly outlined and assembled in a handbook? There exists a document called the “Faculty Handbook” that is kept by each academic unit, or in the case of some academic units, what our student handbooks are to us. In particular, one big part of it and several smaller sections cover the policies and procedures for tenure, which is the topic of this article.

What is this “tenure”? It is a type of special status that college faculty can obtain, which carries with it a lot of privileges and some extra responsibilities. Tenured professors become an integral part of the university; they are collectively responsible for bringing in research money, teaching students, and publishing. However, faculty are still under the control of their academic units. The tenure process involves two main steps: the initial tenure decision and then the reappointment to tenure at the university level.

The evaluations are first and foremost for the students’ feedback in what areas they can improve to better their curriculum, among others. Finally, there is the service to the profession and university. Incoming faculty members evaluated for tenure (as in the case of President Anderson, for example), are usually only evaluated on their teaching and research contributions. That contribution is demonstrated by active work in a professional society (for example, the American Academy of Engineers, or ASCE). On the other hand, sponsoring a student organization or being on some type of committee can constitute service to the university. “It is believed that faculty should be involved with the students outside of the classroom,” said Dr. Kallend, which means that professors actually get “brownie points” for running things like the Hybrid Race Car project, IIT Pumpkin Launch, or the Bridge-Building contest.

The entire process for tenure approval takes up almost an entire academic year and follows two channels, both of which lead to the Provost’s desk. First, a tenure candidate puts together a promotion dossier, detailing his or her achievements in the three areas mentioned above and submits it to the department. Next, professionals outside of the university but in the same field as the applicant are solicited for evaluation letters, which are added to the dossier. Typically, the department gets about 10-12 letters from external sources. The department committee will then review the dossier and write a 1-2 page report, giving a recommendation of the candidate. This goes to the campus committee, which consists of representatives from every academic unit, who will also make the final report and check that the department’s criteria are upheld. In the end, the university committee reviews all the materials, writes its own report, and submits all three reports to the Provost. At the same time, the Head of Department will write a letter to the Dean of the college about how the applicant fits into the department, i.e. what contributions he or she brings and why they are important. The Dean will then write a letter of their own to the Provost and the President. The Provost and the President discuss the candidate after getting all of the materials from both channels, after which the President will make his recommendation to the Board of Trustees. It is up to the Board to make the final decision.

While earning tenure may seem like an impossibly complicated and bureaucratic-filled process, it is a practice unique to academia, and embodies its spirit. For instance, peer review is a traditional validation method in the academic circles. In addition, the purpose of tenure is to protect questionable or unpopular research by giving tenured professors freedom and immunity to continue their work, as long as they can prove their commitment to their profession and the university. No equivalents exist in the corporate world or politics, or any other field. So, if you’re thinking of going into academia, consider adding “tenure” to your list of pros.
A hybrid drivetrain is inherently not an easy system to design. There are many of the systems that went onto last year’s car. He is one of the former student officers, and was actively involved in the design and assembly of the project. Without a doubt, he is one of the answers he gave in an interview.

A3) I would definitely have to say that, other than the suspension, I am most interested in the drivetrain of the car. I am able to picture a design and get right into fabrication. I rather do, work hands on in the garage or design models on the computer. This year my responsibility is the chassis and I’m responsible for the chassis and his strength is his work ethic and determination. The following are some of the things you worked on, other than the suspension?

A1) I have worked on just about every aspect of the project. Last year my primary focus was design and fabrication of the suspension. I also contributed significantly to the steering and braking systems as well as the cockpit design. This year my responsibility is the chassis and I’m also Mechanical Team Leader so I have the responsibility of organizing and keeping the Team on schedule.

Q2) What is your method of working? What would you rather do, work hands on in the garage or design models on the computer?

A2) I am fortunate to have the ability to think abstractly. I can imagine a picture and get right into fabrication. I would therefore say I prefer to work hands on in the garage. Without the need arise however, I also can design parts with AutoCAD.

Q3) What is the most interesting aspect of the car for you, other than what you worked on?

A3) I would definitely have to say that, other than the suspension, I am most interested in the drivetrain of the car. A hybrid drivetrain is inherently not an easy system to design or fabricate, and there are quite a few engineering problems that need to be solved in order for it to function properly. I’m proud to say that our #6 car last year had arguable the best drivetrain out of all the teams that present at the competition. Don Ruffatto, our lead drivetrain designer, comes up with some pretty brilliant ideas and I’m always amazed by how well his systems work.

Q4) What sparked your interest in this Formula Hybrid competition? What purpose do you see for this competition and your involvement in it?

A4) The fact that we’re able to work hands on and apply what we learn in the classroom to a real situation has been an awesome experience. The skills we learn through the project not only apply to engineering problems but also to effectively work with a team to achieve a goal. These are valuable lessons that you simply cannot learn in the classroom.

Q5) Where do you see the future of hybrid car racing?

A5) There is definitely a future to hybrid car racing. Over time, as hybrid technology becomes more affordable and mainstream, the professional racing industry will follow. The Formula Hybrid Competition is definitely on the forefront of competition racing. It would be great to say that the days of gas-only racing are numbered and the future is hybrid technology.

Q6) What do you aim to do, for the 2009 competition?

A6) We’re proud to say that we’re the only team building two cars this year. While you are at IIT, your learning will extend beyond the classroom and beyond the textbooks you read. One of the skills that you will refine at college is how to develop mature and satisfying relationships. Sometimes, meaningful and long lasting friendships can make you feel confident and supported. However, for most of us, meaningful and long lasting friendships can make you feel confident and supported. However, for most of us, meaningful and long lasting friendships can make you feel confident and supported. However; for most of us, meaningful and long lasting friendships can make you feel confident and supported. However; for most of us, meaningful and long lasting friendships can make you feel confident and supported. However; for most of us, meaningful and long lasting friendships can make you feel confident and supported. However; for most of us, meaningful and long lasting friendships can make you feel confident and supported.
Have you ever wondered about that alphabet soup of letters, called general education requirements, that dictates how we spend our day while you’re in college? Did you ever take Natural Sciences, “CS” for Computer Science designation, “H” for the necessary Humanities courses, and other such letters and numbers to that end? What might they be and how they avoid ending up with too many cooks? Would you surprise to learn that there really hasn’t been an agreed-upon procedure for designing what issues an undergraduate must take as gen ed requirements, and who should determine these needs for each department?

The Committee on the Undergraduate Student Curriculum (UGSC) has been grappling with these issues for years. In a meeting last spring, it was agreed that the UGSC would create subcommittees to review designations of courses as satisfying general education requirements in Computer Science, Humanities, Mathematics, Natural Science or Engineering, Social or Behavioral Sciences; and Writing and Communication. Each of these subcommittees would have authority to approve new designations and each would report back to the UGSC about its decisions. The UGSC would then have authority to approve or reverse those decisions. One of the more contentious of these is the labeling of courses to satisfy general education requirements in Writing and Communication.

On Friday, February 10th to discuss once again the requirement for undergraduates in all disciplines at IIT to take fourteen communication-intensive courses in order to graduate. The reason for the fourteen-course requirement is the creation of a university-wide committee that would certify and regularly review the certification of communication-intensive courses on all academic units throughout IIT. There are nine academic units (AU) in all, ranging from College of Architecture through Chemical and Biological Engineering, Humanities, Math and Science Education and others, and each of these departments is responsible for including in their curricula a minimum of five of the fourteen required courses.

The necessity for communication classes began in the late nineties when the Communication Across the Curriculum (CAC) program was instituted to respond to the English 101 as a gen ed requirement. Two attempts were made in the late nineties and earlier this decade to create a communications course overview committee; each failed to provide oversight for the efforts of individuals to incorporate communication-intensive instruction into courses to be used by students in their own majors. When interviewed after the Feb 10 meeting, Greg Pulliam, Chair of the C-course Subcommittee, speculated that this failure may have been because earlier directors didn’t ask for help from the UGSC to form an advisory board. “There may be a better chance to implement a university-wide committee to oversee certification of “C” instruction now that the initiative is coming directly from the UGSC,” Pulliam said.

Another reason for earlier unsuccessful attempts may have been that what counts as communication in one department, especially the more technical ones like Applied Mathematics, differs from what counts as communication in another department, such as Humanities. Many departments have been reluctant to have decisions imposed on them as to what constitutes communication within their disciplines by outside influences, such as large committees or outside departments, which may not understand “C” course needs specific to their discipline.

As Chair of the C-course Subcommittee, Pulliam proposed a new approach during Tuesday’s meeting: creating to all the people where at the Academic Unit level to review all C-courses in their departments to make sure that the Communication Across the Disciplines program’s requirements are met and would verify that the designation of “C” to an existing or newly created course is legitimate. These small AU-level committees would meet every three years to review existing C-courses and on an as-needed basis to certify adding a “C” designation to a course. The three members would be comprised of the CAC director, a faculty member from the department in question appointed by that department’s Chair, and a faculty member outside of the department, nominated by the CAC director and approved in the department.

In order to implement this review process, there must be appropriate criteria for the needed “C” courses at departmental level. For further consideration, they discussed the need for modification of the current guidelines that help determine the appropriate designation. The current CAC requirements are:

1) Students must receive instruction in writing or speaking.
2) They must have the opportunity to practice the skill.
3) They must get feedback on their efforts.
4) They must have the opportunity to try again. Some of the suggested modifications are:

1) Students must receive instruction in, or modeling of, discourse-specific discourse, written or spoken.
2) They must have the opportunity to put their skills into practice.
3) They must get feedback on their efforts.
4) They must have the opportunity to incorporate feedback into subsequent efforts.

Pulliam noted that the Communication Across the Curriculum program will provide the necessary guidance for university-wide continuity, he and Carrie Hatungan are the current co-directors of the CAC program. Hatungan is a PhD candidate in Technical Communication and has recently been brought into the CAC program to act as a liaison to faculty to provide resources for communication needs for students within the classroom and outside of the classroom, within their disciplines. When speaking after Tuesday’s meeting, she described her role concerning the designation of C-intensive courses as “providing the resources that faculty will need after each department has decided upon the standards intrinsic to its discipline. I see the CAC as supporting each department’s own definition. Communication across curriculum is a critical issue; I’m hearing feedback from the Career Management Center that companies are hiring graduates many managers feel aren’t as capable with communication issues as they’d like for them to be.” She feels that as IIT is one of the few universities with degree programs in Technical Communication, and given the strength of that department, the talent of the professors university-wide, and the resources of the CAC, “we should be able to bridge the communication gap that industry leaders are concerned about.”

Other issues covered at the UGSC meeting were the need to create a faculty handbook statement on general education requirements, with brief remarks from Phil Troy and an update from the Computer Science General Education Subcommittee, given by Matt Bauer, from the Computer Science Department.

By Susan Malgrave
Tuesday, February 24

Academic Studies at IIT: Tips for International Students
Perlestein Hall 131
The International Center presents the “Academic Studies at IIT: Tips for International Students” workshop taught by Dr. Vida Winans. To sign-up for this event, please email Louis Berends at berends@iit.edu ASAP.

Fat Tuesday celebration with Catholic Campus Ministry 7pm, Godd10s
It’s that time of the year again, indulge because tomorrow you* won’t be able to.
*N you being practicing Christians and their faithful friends who aren’t going to just use today as an excuse to party.

Student Organization Workshop: Frustration-Free Finance 12:45pm, MTCC Ballroom
The last installment of the Hawk-Eye workshops for the semester. Cover the basic principles of operating a student organization on campus. Contact the Office of Student life for more information.

Wednesday, February 25

TechNews Writers Meeting 1:10pm, TechNews office (MTCC221)
Want to write about something? Have a gripe about the issue? Need to take some photos? Need to get paid? TechNews is here.

Ash Wednesday celebrations with Catholic Campus Ministry 1pm, Herman Hall Ballroom
Ash Wednesday mass, marking the beginning of the Easter season, will be held on campus. Contact catholic@iit.edu for more information.

Architecture Lecture: PLANT Architect, Inc. 5-6pm, Crown Hall
PLANT Architect architects, Chris Pommer, Lisa Rapoport and Mary Tremain, partners in PLANT Architect, Inc. will be giving a lecture on “Processing”.

Thursday, February 26

CMC Workshop: Getting a Job - Interviewing 2-3pm, CMC, Galvin Library
Learn how to behave and present yourself at an interview in order to increase your chances of getting the job you want.

College of Architecture Profession Day 2-4pm, Crown Hall - Center Core
The College of Architecture will host an informal “Meet and Greet”. Firms are invited to meet with potential employees in the B Arch and M Arch programmes and students are invited to meet with firms to discover their scopes and employment opportunities.

Urban Sounds 8pm-1am, The BOG
Come Join LIFE/SHPE and Omega Delta Fraternity for a night of Urban Dance @ The BOG.
We will be having two dance performances followed by an open dance floor for the rest of the night.

Friday, February 27

Last day to resolve “I” Grades from Fall 2008

Friday Night Chat: Remembering Powerful Figures: A Tribute to Black History 5-6:15pm, WH115
Discussing powerful past and present leaders during Black History month, and highlighting ways that IIT Students can be leaders everyday.

Study Abroad Application Deadline: Summer and Fall 2009 Programs 5pm, International Center, MB 405
This is the last day to apply to study abroad programs in the summer and fall of 2009.

Saturday, February 28

IIT vs Saint Xavier 1-5pm, Keating Hall
As the season comes to an end, we wish you to witness a game of epic proportions as our Men’s and Women’s Basketball team face off against Saint Xavier University.
The women play at 1pm and the Men play at 3pm

TechNews submissions due! 11:50pm, technews.iit.edu
Want to get an article or photo into the February 3 edition of TechNews? Now is your last chance!

TechNews Writer’s Workshop 2:00pm, MTCC Ballroom
Get your questions answered on the do’s and don’ts of being a TechNews writer.

Monday, March 2

Architecture Loeb Lecture: Dietrich Neumann
6pm, Crown Hall - Center Core
Dietrich Neumann-Loebel, Vincent Scully Visiting Professor for the History of Architecture, Yale School of Architecture, will present “Mystifying Mies: New Research on Ludwig Mies van der Rohe”

CMC Workshop: Resume Critique Session 2:30-4:30pm, CMC, Galvin Library
 Unsure about your resume? Too sure about your resume? Need some help bolstering what you’ve done? Can’t quite figure out quite the best way to say that you made everything in your life happen? Come to the CMC for help at the resume critique session!

Chicago Polar Plunge 10am, North Avenue Beach
Come support the Chicago Polar Plunge with Triangle Fraternity as they fundraise for the Special Olympics. Donations accepted.

Please register for this event by March 3rd at LeadershipAcademy.iit.edu or 312.567.3945. Event is only open to undergraduates. Lunch Provided!
Martial Arts club brings diversity to IIT sports scene

By Lindsay Drabek and Vlada Gaisina

“See how easy it is?” says Norby, after showing a student how to throw someone off himself. Norby is the instructor for IIT’s Mixed Martial Arts club (MMA), which is now official. MMA meets twice a week, on Thursdays at 7:30 pm and on Saturday at 3:00 pm in the upper level of Keating. The club attendees spend about 2 hours learning and practicing new moves, followed by roughly an hour of sparring. Norby teaches mainly Jiu-jitsu and members in the club help one another learn wrestling and boxing along with other styles.

Club founder and President, Bernie Mendez, says the origins of the club go back to about a year ago, when he and his friends started meeting regularly to spar. At first Bernie started by teaching people what he knew, but when more people became interested, he decided to make it an official club, so he found an instructor. Norby has been with the club for the past three weeks and is widely approved of by members of the club. Normally activities like this at a gym club, he has many organized sports-related activities outside of the club and has great hopes for the club. He says he felt that IIT didn’t have organized sports-related activities outside of the official teams, so he wanted to give people more options. He encourages anyone interested to try it, stressing that MMA is primarily a learning environment. “First, it’s a class; second, it’s a workout; and then it’s whatever else you want to make it.” He equated an MMA session to a class: “You learn, you practice, and you test,” referring to the sparring as the test. However, there is no pressure to engage in it; those who participate in the sparring do so because they enjoy it.

The club is female-friendly, and in fact is a good opportunity for girls to learn basic defense maneuvers. Bernie watches out for the safety of all members, and there exists a level of respect among everyone. Norby has an impressive record of teaching and being involved in the martial arts: he has been an instructor for 24 years, and actually had significant experience with a different form of martial arts that involves mostly punching and kicking, but there exists a level of respect among everyone. Norby has an impressive record of teaching and being involved in the martial arts; he has been an instructor for 24 years, and among everyone. Norby has an impressive record of teaching and being involved in the martial arts; he has been an instructor for 24 years, and there exists a level of respect among everyone. Norby has an impressive record of teaching and being involved in the martial arts; he has been an instructor for 24 years, and among everyone. Norby has an impressive record of teaching and being involved in the martial arts; he has been an instructor for 24 years, and there exists a level of respect among everyone.
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**Public Safety Incident Reports**

Technews is having a papier-mâché contest! Top three creations win BestBuy gift cards! Get two of your friends in on this and e-mail TechNews by midnight on Friday, February 27 or sign up with TechNews staff on the MTCC Bridge to enter the contest. You’ll get the first week of March to complete it with some supplies provided. Impress us, but remember to keep it appropriate!"
**Flying cars: an impossible dream?**

By Kamakshi Palakodety

I am sure that most of you have been to the auto show held in Chicago recently. The U.S. government has sketched out plans to save the costs of being incurred at that time. Among many things, they decided to cut costs on air travel and make transportation easier, faster and cheaper for everyone. It was Waterman's idea that a man named Waldo Dean Waterman took the initiative and turned the idea into reality. He soon came up with the Arrowbile.

Waterman not only had the brains but also had the experience of a task of this kind. He was an airplane engineer and thus, was familiar with all the design and technical aspects of the project. He built a car and that was the hybrid of a car and an airplane. The Arrowbile was built to be a plane with detachable wings that could be removed when not in use, thus making travel easier, faster and cheaper for everyone. It was Waterman's idea that a man named Waldo Dean Waterman took the initiative and turned the idea into reality. He soon came up with the Arrowbile.

Waterman's Arrowbile was first tested on February 21, 1937 and was noted to have the capability of flying at an impressive speed of 110 miles per hour. Not bad for a car at all! Waterman's journey did not end there. Over the course of years, many people flew the Arrowbile for distances as far as New York miles per hour. Not bad for a car at all!

**Prince of Persia:** Prettiest Platforming Yet

By Jonathan Mikesell

Platform: Xbox 360, PlayStation 3, PC, Mac
Gene: Action-Adventure

While wandering in a sandstorm, a medieval Persian prince turned tomb raider unfolds upon an unnamed kingdom in turmoil, and attempts to aid his princess Ella in restoring it from its cursed state and preventing the evil god Ahriman from being unleashed into the world.

The environments are massive and open, giving the player spectacular views spanning perhaps a quarter mile of game world, without sacrificing much detail.

The effects are excellent and abundant, showcasing dynamic lighting and vibrant colors.

The game sports an original musical score which borrows most of its style from Arabic music, augmented by some modern and western elements. It serves to complement both action and moments of peace well.

There are a surprising number of sound effects as well. There are metallic clangs and grates for swordplay, an array of scraping, sliding, and landing noises for acrobatics, water flow noises, bell-like magic tones, and many more.

Both of the main characters and five of the antagonists also have voiceovers. The villains are quite good, partly because their lines are reserved mostly for combat and cut scenes, so a single mood and few words will do. The actors for the prince and princess both have good delivery, but as they will comment and deliver plot exposition throughout the game and be in a great variety of situations, their limited breadth of emotion and intonation leave much to be desired.

**Tech Toy: new Kindle 2**

By Abhishek Gunduguri

Amazon.com has launched a new Kindle 2, the e-book reader just about a week ago. The Kindle 2 replaces its predecessor Kindle, 2, the e-book reader just about a week ago. The Kindle 2, Amazon avoided copying the iPhone type features. The New Kindle is thinner, has better display and much longer battery life.

All in all, this new Kindle will get more people to either read e-books or some reading enthusiasts to invest $359.00 for a 1/3th inch thick electronic book with wireless capabilities.
Street Fighter attacks again

By Carlito E. Cabada, Jr.

As arcades slowly fade into obscurity, developers are ignoring hardcore fighting game fans more than ever. Even though series like Soul Calibur, Tekken and Virtua Fighter keep coming out, none of them come close to the balance and fluidity of the Street Fighter series. Trapped in a mystery and timed button presses still determine the winner, but competitive play has quickly become an afterthought as new Street Fighter games have been notably lacking in multiplayer. Capcom’s latest entry, Street Fighter IV, is a return to form, and one that captures the essence of an authentic arcade experience.

Street Fighter IV takes place after the events of the second game and before the events of the third, and that is all that needs mentioning as far as the plot is concerned. The specific details aren’t worth noting, since each character has his or her own motivation for letting fists fly; but this game’s placement in the overall timeline does affect the character roster. Fighters from Street Fighter III are absent, and the different endings per character overall timeline does affect the character roster. Fighters from Street Fighter II, the widely proposed peak of the series. From the very beginning, I felt right at home with the controls.

The genre is all about the gameplay and, thankfully, Street Fighter IV nails this aspect perfectly. As a fan of 2D fighting such games, I feel a certain responsibility to the transition to 3D character models. The movement still takes place on a 2D plane, but I was worried the new graphical design would alter very specific things like heft and weight. As a number of years goes by, I can safely say this game feels very much like Street Fighter II, the widely proposed peak of the series. From the very beginning, I felt right at home with the controls.

Merely copying and pasting the best parts of previous games doesn’t result in a winning formula. Innovation is what differentiates the good from the great. For Street Fighter IV, the developers added focus attacks and the revenge gauge. Focus attacks are the game’s system of parrying and countering, and they truly demonstrate that the game has all the tools of Street Fighter II. The revenge gauge allows for many last-second comebacks through ultra combos (upgraded versions of the series’ super combos). Despite being presented in a graphical sense, the revenge gauge is still as exciting as the last.

Street Fighter IV is a testament to how great design makes a game worth playing. Even though there’s a lack of different modes to choose from, I felt fine with only the standard arcade and versus settings. Online play has been added, and it works despite the importance of a lag-free experience. Personally, I loved how the online opposition was limited to a single-player session; it’s just another feature that emulate the arcade feeling. The challenge of making a comeback only touches new players combos and not the content in which to use them.

As I waited for a mother and child to leave the store, he said, “Don’t worry, I understand” as if I had some ulterior motive aside from reviewing it (honestly, this game’s placement in Street Fighter series. From the very beginning, I felt right at home with the controls.

The genre is all about the gameplay and, thankfully, Street Fighter IV nails this aspect perfectly. As a fan of 2D fighting such games, I feel a certain responsibility to the transition to 3D character models. The movement still takes place on a 2D plane, but I was worried the new graphical design would alter very specific things like heft and weight. As a number of years goes by, I can safely say this game feels very much like Street Fighter II, the widely proposed peak of the series. From the very beginning, I felt right at home with the controls.

Onereachana: Birchim Samurai Squad is an extremely interesting game; of course, when I say “interesting” I mean it in the worst way possible. Birchim Squad is no exception. The entire experience solely focuses on scantily clad women fighting zombies, and everything from the graphics to the sound is poorly executed. I love gory, mindless zombie killing and, if I am honest, I can’t say I’m too bothered with staring at 3D-rendered women. Therefore, it was puzzling how a combination of two poor games resulted in a nastily turgid game. Birchim Squad’s equivalent of fruitcake.

Instead of doing an in-depth review of the game like I usually do, I’m going to take the time to write about how my purchasing experience was. The reason is that my story is a reflection of what I think about the game (i.e. every aspect was terrible). If anyone is curious whether or not I played it, he or she can check my Xbox 360 gametracker, DarkNight.(Note: In the past few years and I should probably be asked, if I am honest)

My tale begins in a mall called Gurnee Mills, a semi-defunct shopping outlet and home to a GameStop I worked at for more than two years. In order to maximize the embarrassment, I bled all my bets on hopes that a former co-worker would be behind the counter. Unfortunately, no such person was around. What’s worse, the person on duty was an angry, shirt-tucking clerk; very different from the former manager was handling the game out of the store. Someone then mentioned the fact that I had heard my silent plea, because a familiar face was coming in from the back. It was time, and I took advantage of the opportunity to get the game from the shelf. As I waited for a mother and her daughter to finish their transaction, I got bored despite the familiarity I had with the person I’d be buying the game from. When it was time to ask, I couldn’t get the words out of my mouth. Instead of asking for Birchim Samurai Squad, I asked for the official Darwin’s Genesis Collection and I felt fine with that. However, as my former manager was handling my purchase, a thought flashed across my mind: “Nay! You cannot have an actual Birchim Samurai Squad! Don’t be a chicken!”

With that, I finally asked my friend of fashion and humor overtook his face, and I quickly explained the reason why I wanted Birchim Samurai Squad. As he listened, he fished from the shelf, he said, “Don’t worry, I understand” as if I had some ulterior motive aside from reviewing it (honestly, this game’s placement in Street Fighter series. From the very beginning, I felt right at home with the controls.

Butchered by the cover, it was a humorous take on a beautiful girl wearing a birkin, a feather boa and a cowgirl (note the distasteful double meaning) hat. The backside of the cover reads, “Sexy samurai sisters; our final hope!” and highlights the uncomfortable costumes and a Dress-Up mode; the marketing team was clearly pandering to the lowbrow gaming crowd. The physical manifestation of mysogyny and poor game design was scarring my brain and, at that point, I still hadn’t played it.

Sadly, there’s absolutely no good way to explain that I played this game simply for review purposes. I guarantee that anyone reading this article is probably thinking I have some awkward fetish or the need to fill gaps only an intimate relationship can. I can only lay out my reasoning and hope that readers are trustworthy enough to know the truth behind my words.

When I did play it, it was baffle by how bad it was. I wish I could say more, but that’s the only way to describe every little bit that constitutes this game. The sad part is it’s bad in terms of gameplay and morals, a rare feat in the gaming industry’s initiative to censor suggestive content. The graphics were outdated, the soundtrack was packed with songs that have “Touch me!” in their lyrics and loading times were absurdly long even after a full hard drive install.

Alas, I bought the game and played it all the way through; ultimately, I felt much less of a person as I saw the credits scroll by. At the end of the day there’s only one thing I can do to drive my point home, and that’s to restate my opinions with solidarity.

This game is bad.
Book review: A Death in the Family by James Agee

By Udayan Das

I can’t bring myself to dislike Andrew Bird. Though Noble Beast and its predecessor, Armchair Apocrypha, haven’t done much to improve my impression of the artist, every time I see him live or even catch a snippet of a song, I get the feeling that the cycle has been broken with the release of this album – ideally, that it’s a knockout and reaffirming of what I grew to admire about him almost a decade ago. But, unfortunate as it is, I cannot proclaim any such thing. The nature of the album is also the best way to describe it – pleasant, but underwhelming. The latter descriptor has many contributing factors; not the least being the translation of Bird’s live act into studio-recorded music, what appears to be the artist’s ongoing work to bring himself closer to pop accessibility, what appears to be the artist’s ongoing work to bring himself closer to pop accessibility, what appears to be the artist’s ongoing work to bring himself closer to pop accessibility.

The main focus of the book is to follow Rufus at age six through this crisis in life. Agee himself lost his father at the age of six, and it is pretty obvious that Rufus is his stand-in. Perhaps the reason why he uses the name Rufus instead of himself is because memory can only go so far, and this rather than being a memoir then ends up being a work of fiction. This reason is a technical one, Agee’s choice of a third person all seeing narrator. At first this choice may seem a little surprising. The reason why he does this is because it allows him to not only speak of Rufus’s feelings, but also the feelings of other people in the book, especially his mother, and when he is alive, his father. Actually the book is all about feelings, and the rendering of mood, of setting.

There are scenes that are so acutely observed that it is hard not to stop reading and just close your eyes and take a deep breath. Early in the book, there is a scene in which the father, having on a business trip before dawn (later, that same night), dies. The mother is down making a quick breakfast while the father’s tongue gesticulate on her part early in the day. The father does his part in returning the gesture by making sure that he is in the bedroom, where he was dressing up, as near as possible, moving things off the floor which he knows will be the last time some of his wife move. He does this out of consideration, and in the meantime, he pauses to look out the window, and we are presented with a wonderful portrait of the suburban night. It is hard to describe the effect that this whole chapter has on your person. There are other scenes like that one.

In terms of conventional writing, the writing here follows very few conventions. As I said before, there is nothing special about the story itself. Nothing extra-ordinary happens, no remarkable co-incidences. The plot and the action doesn’t matter much. What matters are those feelings, the fondness that the narrator has for all the characters (whom he obviously loves). There is character development but not in the traditional sense because we have not seen or otherwise know much about the characters before this change. So this breaks from a lot of (literate to say current) literary convention. But it does not break from it. It is just staying honest to what it needs to do and tries to do nothing more but that. One thing is conventional is that the last three chapters work like a climax. Nothing dramatic happens, it is a climax in a traditional sense, but there is a perceptive urgency in the writing that serves as a narrative climax. It is breathtaking.

Armchair Apocrypha was an excellent record, he wrote a few screenplays, and he brings some special ability about visually describing a scene to his work here. One can vividly imagine the events in the book, and one remembers the book more as a movie than one had once seen. That is a remarkable thing. I guarantee that the book will stay with you long after you have finished reading it. One of the finest books that I have ever read.

*But because it is a tough read emotionally, I probably won’t read it again in a long time.

Bird’s Noble Beast unimpressive

By Karl Rybaltowski

I can’t bring myself to dislike Andrew Bird. Though Noble Beast and its predecessor, Armchair Apocrypha, haven’t done much to improve my impression of the artist, every time I see him live or even catch a snippet of a song, I get the feeling that the cycle has been broken with the release of this album – ideally, that it’s a knockout and reaffirming of what I grew to admire about him almost a decade ago. But, unfortunate as it is, I cannot proclaim any such thing. The nature of the album is also the best way to describe it – pleasant, but underwhelming. The latter descriptor has many contributing factors; not the least being the translation of Bird’s live act into studio-recorded music, what appears to be the artist’s ongoing work to bring himself closer to pop accessibility, and a lack of adventurousness. Whether an overall sense of quality overcomes those handicaps is something I am still struggling to decide.

To anyone who listened to Armchair Apocrypha, this new album will not be a surprise. Though Bird himself has claimed it was his intention to create a smoother, mellower music to contrast with Apocrypha’s ‘sharp’ tones, there is very little to notice the listener. Here is a band that the shake of change is that more than ever, Bird strings words together more for their sound than for meaning – not to mention the sheer volume in which that narrative songwriting is dead. This leads to some very strange, but at times inexplicably beautiful, lyrics. Whether it’s “calfcullied arhythmatists” or “proto-Sanskrit Minoan,” the word-play (if it can even be called that at this point) is very much on the track “Nomenclature,” it might actually go a little too far, with the song nonsensical even in comparison to the other track on this album. T h a n k f u l l y , while consistent, remains strong. In fact, most vocalists are brought in on this album. Despite all of the above, I can’t write Andrew Bird off. His live performances, even now, are enchanting, and even while I decry the low points of Noble Beast, I continue to listen to it because there are moments in which things to enjoy here — especially for those who were fans of Armchair Apocrypha. Ultimately, Bird’s choice to stick with a familiar formula is disappointing, and the results are not impressive. But one would be hard-pressed to actually assign an unqualified negative word to describe this album. At the worst, it is, when not compared to any of his other album’s career, an decent, as he seems to be his own hometown, one which gives him a chance for a change, and the body has to be delivered to Colorado, which seems to be his own hometown, one which he hasn’t visited for a while. We have already seen that the movie allows us to know what his family life is like. All this enables us to see what kind of man he is. We begin to think of the film and how he gets how he is affected by this film, how it turns out that the body is actually to be delivered to Wyoming (where is where Phelps was commissioned), he will go through with the task nevertheless.

And it is his story. But it is not the story of how he gets affected by the events on the trip (although he is no doubt affected, and goes on to write in his journals, which become the basis of the film). Who gets affected is us. The story follows Strobl and the body (in a container) for the entire trip, and there is no shortage of a sense of Airplane trip, much so that a roommate who was passing by every 10 minutes or so remarked that every time he passed he could see whether the body being loaded or unloaded from an airplane) with two car trips at the source and destination. Strobl gets his personal effects, and talks to a number of people on the trip, mainly with those who are involved with this delivery in some way or another (like a driver who drives him to the source airport). What’s fascinating are the conversations and the unsaid respect that everyone has for the deceased. Some are grateful for the deceased service, others are just in awe of being in the presence of death. At one point an airliner official upgrades Strobl’s ticket to first class.

In all the film manages to convey what the death of a 19-year-old means to a society, how people show either their gratitude, respect, or perhaps just a sense of disappointment. It is unimportant whether one believes in the war or not, they can nevertheless appreciate the choice of this teenager in going to war (under whatever persuasion, in whichever war). The film has great performances, Strobl’s acting plays straight and doesn’t strive for effect. It succeeds however because of something else: its capacity for wordlessly depicting mood. There is perhaps a deliberate slowness in the telling of the story that does help in this. Eventually, it does the simplest thing right in relaying the human effect.
**across**

1. Treaty
7. Storm precursor
10. Wiped out
11. Telescope part
12. Black cat, maybe
13. Good name for a Dalmatian
15. Like some decrees
17. “I” problem
18. Tux’s partner
20. Campers, for short
21. On, as a lamp
23. manner of speaking
24. “Mamma ___!”
26. Spelling contests
27. Sail supports
29. Tried to get home, maybe
31. Deer sit
32. Oversized
33. “Welcome” site
35. Fiesta fare
37. Skunk’s defense
39. It might have a clutch
41. Did a marathon
42. N.Y.C. subway initials
43. Critical hosp. area
44. ___ Gratia Artis
45. Disenumber
46. Beach sights
48. “Zip-___-Doo-Dah”
49. Closed
50. Internet room
51. Creme cookie
52. Garbed
53. Bridle strap
54. Reserve health
55. After-bath wear
56. Soul singer Radding

**down**

1. Sign of life
2. Comfort
3. Recipe abbr.
4. Help for the stumped
5. Holds back
6. Sunrise
7. Boardroom V.I.P.’s
8. Fleet chief
9. Patches up
14. Fully anesthetized
16. Dr. Seuss’s Sam ___
18. Honeymoon falls
19. Regulars
22. Matter of debate
25. “A house ___ a home”
26. Oversized
27. “Welcome” site
28. The “S” of CBS (abbr.)
30. Palme ___ (Cannes award)
32. Tom Clancy hero
33. Wise one
35. Fins’ foe
37. Skunk’s defense
39. It might have a clutch
41. Did a marathon
42. N.Y.C. subway initials
43. Critical hosp. area
44. ___ Gratia Artis
45. Disenumber
46. Beach sights
48. “Zip-___-Doo-Dah”
49. Closed
50. Internet room
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**xkcd by randall munroe**

Do you have any thoughts regarding the particle accelerators' tertiary F.E.L. guidance system?

We can't put the broken part in the machine. It wouldn't smash the right tiny things together and the machine might break.

That would be very bad.

I spent all night reading Simple.Wikipedia.org, and now I can't stop talking like this.

Another round of ray ray

V ^__^
Formula 1 racing: Red Bull Racing's RB5

**Formula 1 rules, changes galore**

**By Abhishek Gundugurtti**

The Formula 1 2009 season is seeing a lot of changes galore. As many technical challenges have increased for team designers to meet the new requirements, one team is said to have been ahead of the others. The 2009 season is likely to optimize the performance of the cars and thus more chances for overtaking. The race tires have been converted to slicks to give better grip for the cars and thus more chances for overtaking. Teams like Ferrari, Mclaren and BMW have had a poor season thus far, this year's third place in the FOTA. Thus, huge cost-cutting approaches were announced by FIA President Max Mosley. This was followed by teams announcing their willingness to work with the FIA and each other through the Formula One Teams’ Association (FOTA) to bring various restrictions like testing times, number of venues, number of races for each team and for the development of longer lasting components.

The rule changes for Formula 1 have been immense, in response to partly to the fans' request for more overtaking and more exciting racing. The aerodynamic aspects of the Formula 1 car have been dramatically reduced. The rear wing has been reduced in size by around 25% and the front wings are now wider. The aerodynamic aspects of the 2009 season have proven to be a close-fought battle with final scores at 1-1: Man United vs. Arsenal. This time around, they want to avoid that outcome. Roma's side saw their hopes founder in the last two matches against AS Roma at home, and with their last performances against Inter. Roma will look to repeat past performances against AS Roma at home, and with their last match coming up against Inter. Inter will look forward to put in their strongest performance with Mirko Vucinic, Julio Baptista, Daniele De Rossi and Mauro Emanuel. The prediction for this game is a 2-0 victory for Inter Milan.

UEFA Champions League predictions 2009

**By Abhishek Gundugurtti**

As the first leg of matches in the UEFA Champions League starts, TechNews sports writers make some predictions about what could happen in the following matches. Inter Milan will play Man United in the first leg on February 24th at 12:45pm Chicago time. As Sir Alex Ferguson's men go up against Jose Mourinho's men, both managers will be eagerly waiting for a rematch between their respective teams. Jose Mourinho has gone so far as to say they are competitive in every aspect of the game. The prediction for this game is a 2-0 victory.
Swimmers dive into Nationals

By Mike Z
TECHNEWS WRITER

After a tough season, our swimmers swam their way into the NAIA Championship, 9 NCAA swim team records, 8 Liberal Arts Championship Meet winners, 7 Liberal Arts Championship Meet records, the male Liberal Arts Championship swimmer of the meet (Dale Cuffe), the overall Liberal Arts Championship coach of the meet and 3 new NAIA National Championship qualifiers were all achieved this weekend by the Illinois Tech Swimming and Diving Teams.

Coach Bond asked the team to treat the Liberal Arts Championships (the team’s conference meet) as if they were already at the NAIA National Championships. Both meets use the same 3 day format with prelims and finals, so this was supposed to be the perfect rehearsal for the national championships. He expected the team to use this meet to get used to having to come back and swim fast twice in the same day, over a three day span. The team responded with great performance and confidence. School records and meet records fell every session of the meet. The team won a combined 8 events out of 40. Not to be lost in all of the excitement, the team added three more swimmers to the national team roster. Lauren Fast swam to her first national qualification in the 200 Fly. Brian Brady picked up 3 national cuts over the weekend with swims in the 50, 100 and 200 Freestyle events. Team captain, Greg Herbert picked up the first national cut of his career in the 1650 Freestyle.

Our swimming coach Bond stated, “If this meet is any indication of what is yet to come at the NAIA National Championships, there are some teams that need to start considering us a threat to move up the rankings with both teams. Our women’s team showed it is small, but fast. We have our entire women’s team qualified for the national championships now with Lauren Fast getting her cuts this weekend. Our men’s team sent notice that we have the guys that can score big points. It seems like our 200 and 400 Free Relays are ranked #1 in the nation coming out of this meet.” So good luck to our swimmers, and show the other teams how to swim!

By Vishal Jain
TECHNEWS WRITER

On February 9, 2009 came the end of Scolari’s time as Chelsea’s manager. Luiz Felipe Scolari, who joined Chelsea as a manager in the summer, was expected to take Chelsea to the top as the best team in the premier league. The club is yet to win a trophy since it parted with manager Jose Mourinho. After Mourinho, Scolari replaced Avram Grant during the summer. While choosing the right manager, Chelsea boss had many names coming up - with the likes of Gianfranco Zola, the club legend, and former player and coach Steve Clarke.

Chelsea website stated, “Luiz Felipe Scolari has been dismissed as manager of Chelsea Football Club today (Monday) with immediate effect. The Chelsea board would like to place on record our gratitude for his time as manager. Filippe has brought many positives to the club since he joined and we all feel a sense of sadness that our relationship has ended so soon. Unfortunately the results and performances of the team appeared to be deteriorating at a key time in the season. In order to maintain a challenge for the trophies we are still competing for, we felt the only option was to make the change now. The search for a new manager has already started and we hope to have someone in place as soon as possible.”

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