Basketball cuts: an interview with President Anderson

By Lory Mishra

As reported in TechNews last week, President Anderson announced on March 26th his decision to suspend varsity basketball on the IIT campus. The reasons cited in the email to students and faculty included a desire to further invest in intramural athletic programs. This announcement was met with much unrest from many basketball players, coaches, and the student body that viewed on Friday, April 3, TechNews sat down with the President to investigate his decision.

The President said that the basketball players and their families have been mailed letters that explained the financial and strategic reasons for the suspension of the varsity sport at IIT. The President reported that approximately $335,000 to $400,000 is being spent on basketball on a yearly basis. The per player expenditure on women’s basketball is the largest of any sport and the per player expenditure on men’s basketball is the second largest of any men’s sport. Given these high costs the President said that he could not justify the spending on a sport as non-competitive as IIT varsity basketball.

The President said that the sport would have survived had its performance been better and though this performance could have been improved with more money and resources, these didn’t remain in the budget mainly due to the President and Johnson’s relationship. He added that poorly performing teams were also unable to draw crowds and that this was limiting the number of students varsity basketball was benefiting. In an interview for the previous issue, the women’s team insisted that they had been performing better than they had been previously, even though the President highlighted low conference wins as a reason for not commenting on the situation.

In an interview for the varsity basketball suspensions, the President informed TechNews that he had been scheduled to announce the suspension to both teams and many of the varsity basketball players were the ones being most negatively affected by this announcement. The President is believed to have been fired by Director Hitchen. The President highlighted “the President and Hitchen had been deteriorating” as a reason for not commenting on the situation. The President informed TechNews that he planned to create a better intramural sports program at IIT. He plans to$jed an intramural program that benefit the most number of people on IIT’s campus.}

Food Committee to host first food forum

By Tim Lipman

All of those hate the food here on campus, if that’s what you think about it. Why not do something to do something about it. Speaking of doing something, there is a food forum coming up on April 13th from 6:30-9:00pm in the MTCC Auditorium. The Food Committee would appreciate your feedback on suggestions about issues you have. We will listen. If you come, please don’t say “the food sucks,” or if you do say that, give us something specific. In most cases, generic comments show no intellectual thought about the food, it’s just the aggregation of stereotypical thoughts about college food. Know the students here are intellectual, and they care more about the food than the “food sucks” in fact, I challenge you to take that thought to the next level. But perhaps you may have questions about the food and you just have no idea where to find an answer. In that case, you should also come to the food forum on April 13th, and we will get your questions answered. That’s another reason to get the food forum from IIT and Sodexo present to address directly. If you are a part of a student organization, and are not sure about how to get food or catering in general, the director of catering will also be at the food forum to help answer questions you may have. Another possibility is to email food@edu in any way with anything relating to food, and it will personally respond with an answer to the best of my knowledge or I will find an answer for you. The purpose of this food forum isn’t just to hear your feedback about the food, it’s to inform you about what we have been doing as a committee to improve the food service here at Illinois Tech. Yes, it has improved, believe it or not. While it’s not the perfect by any means, I think we have taken many steps to improve the quality of service. Don’t believe me? I’ll prove it to you.

Before last year, there were 3 meal plans offered, the 14, the 19 and the 5 meals a week for commuters. The 14 was the average meal plan where you had to eat 14 meals each week, the 19 meal plan being the same but with 19 meals. Many people were concerned with the fact that if they didn’t use all 14 meals in one week, they would lose them (“use it or lose it” kind of deal). So, after visiting other schools and working with Sodexo, a new meal plan was born: the create-your-own. I personally have this meal plan and I love it. You no longer have 14 meals a week, but instead you choose 175 meal swipes (1 meal swipe to get into the commons per semester, and the best part? You use it when you want! If you wish to bring in 174 of your best friends and yourself for one meal, go right ahead. Which also brings up the point that you can eat with friends in your meal swipes, just let the cashier know you want to use one of your swipes for a friend. What about bonus points, or if I want to eat in Center Court,” you ask. Well, you can convert one meal swipe to $6 in bonus points and use it at any Sodexo location on campus. So, you won’t be using up all 175 in one semester, you can transfer maybe 20 to bonus points, and have $120 in bonus points to buy food at Global Grounds or Center Court or even Einstein’s.

Oh, enough about meal plans, what else have we done? We helped bring Einstein’s to campus by meeting with them and providing student input. We have surveyed many stations in the Commons to try to improve service there (most notably the grill, by reducing waste and making it more customizable for students). We have been involved with sustainability issues, including the cups and new napkin dispensers, as well as trying to promote tray-less dining to conserve waste and water. We have ended “missed meals” “to-go” meals available after 7pm at Global Grounds for those who don’t have time to go to the Commons for dinner. We suggested putting up the “Hey Joe” whiteboard for the Commons for immediate feedback on the current meals. Speaking of the Hey Joe board, to whenever is using the board to express their wonderful creativity, I ask that you find your other outlet to do so, as this is not an appropriate one. Thank you! Back onto items we have helped to do/improve.

We have also helped bring in the guest chefs from around the world, as well as a nutritionist. If that isn’t enough for you, we provide food suggestions or ask questions about what is listed above.

What are we doing and what are our future plans? Well, the beverages offered in the commons has improved, with more health drinks coming over the summer, so the Food Committee will be doing a survey sometime in the near future to get student input on the issue. There have been many cafes on the Hey Joe board for certain drinks, so we fill out a survey when you see them being passed out! We are also looking for input on vegetarian issues in the Commons. The Food Committee can or provide enough support that we have taken steps to improve the food, then come to the food forum and hear more, or provide suggestions or ask questions about what is listed above.

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Dear SexTech,

A few nights ago my boyfriend and I were having some fun with edible underwear. We were playing around in bed and he put on some gymnast underwear. It was dark and I proceeded to failate it off of him. While slurping down some fruit by the foot I managed to separate a much larger piece of the underwear than I had bargained for. As being turned on as I was I didn’t want to ruin the moment by removing this large sticky blob of candied bottom, and search for a place to put it. Despite being a lot more chewy than I expected I swallowed hard and went back to work. It wasn’t until he began to mount me that we knew something was wrong. As the positions himself he asks me, “Where did the condom go?” Aside from my boyfriend being an idiot, do you know of any other serious repercussions from swallowing a condom? Regrettably, Swallowing Susan

Dear Susan, Imagine for a minute, a balloon shaped object inserted into a twisting and turning pathway that collects the refuse of our meals. As it passes through the digestive system it will eventually fill until reaching the exit point. Once there it will have a hard time leaving as it will still be stretched out and entwined with your intestines. Once wrapped around, that portion of intestine will begin to lose body fluid eventually causing it to rot and fall off. Now you have sepsis. The body will begin to attack itself as you are hospitalized. Mean while you are still constipated as you haven’t been able to use the bathroom for days. This continues to the point in which the digestive track seeks alternative means of disposing of waste. Now that the flow of your body fluids are coming out of your mouth your breath reeks of fecal matter and your friends and family stop coming to visit you. Dehydrated, malnourished, and rotting away you die alone with no one to tell you that you’re an idiot. Or not...it will probably just pass through your system in a couple of days.

Sincerely,
SexTech Staff

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The organ issue

By Nicole Gregory

TECHNEWS WRITER

Every day, thousands of names are added to the wait-list for organ donations. And every year, thousands on that list die, some after decades of waiting for the organ that would have prevented their death.

However, most people die with at least a few useful organs left unmarred by their demise. My question: why are there so few organ donors? Is it because the thought of it makes people squirm and feel uncomfortable? Maybe for some, but most people don’t care what happens to their body after they are done using it. The answer as far as I can tell poor advertising.

No one likes to think about dying. It’s morbid and depressing. And so, most people don’t wake up thinking, “Today I’m going to do my laundry, go to the library, call my mom, and fill out an organ donor form.” It’s usually pretty far from the forefront of our minds, and with good reason.

With such an urgent need for organ donors, one would think that the forms would be easy to find. However, most people die with at least a few useful organs left unmarred by their demise. My question: why are there so few organ donors?

The editors reserve the right to determine if submitted material meets standards.

SUBMISSIONS

If you have any comments or questions about this paper, please submit them to the TechNews webmaster at technews@iit.edu. Photos should be uploaded to the website as well.

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SUBMISSIONS

TechNews is published on the Tuesday of each week of the academic year. Deadline for all submissions and announcements is 11:59PM on the Saturday prior to publication. Articles must be submitted electronically to the TechNews webmaster at technews@iit.edu. Photos should be uploaded to the website as well.
**Speaking of IIT: zombies in drag?**

**By Linda Goldstein**

Speaking of IIT took a Spring Break off, while the author went to Alabama with the Habitat for Humanity group from IIT. Then Speaking of IIT took another break while the author went home for the weekend to sunny California. Los Angeles is a good place to get a car fixed or to eat a yummy empanada, but not so good for schoolwork. I picked up a great chilling study music CD while I was at home. It’s called “Letting go” by Bob Cullerton, and it’s a solo album, played on an Acoustic, which is like a very long string instrument that looks a lot like a stick.

Another project that I’m working on at the moment is the Student Government Association Executive Board elections, which will happen on April 14 in MTCC. (The big debate will be on April 8 at 5pm in the Welcome Center.) We expect a record voter turnout. The candidates are campaigning strongly and ethically. The issues that come up in the administration of an election include misinterpretations of budgetary and advertising guidelines, problems getting extensive enough advertising for the election itself done, and time and location scheduling problems...in addition to the issue of figuring out who will MC the debate and what questions to ask the candidates, if you can get them to all come to the debate, which coincidentally overlaps with two class sessions and dinner.

Another thorny organizational problem is my email inbox recently involved L.A.T., the literary magazine of IIT. All 150 copies of the freakish thing are finally winging their way on little paperback books. I’ve got a box full of them, and many many thanks to Fabio Buffa of the Student Activities Center. I’ve got pages long and contains poetry and fiction from thirty IIT and Shimer students, with cover art by IIT student Grace Chen. We couldn’t have done it without Dr. Snapper (the group’s advisor) and a rather stubbly, generated by the waste heat from the chaotic urges towards poetry, which now restlessly within the souls of so many technical students.

Speaking of IIT, the April 1st Conficker virus didn’t shut down the dockets. Also I’ve got some wonderful news for IIT students. He’s been working at IIT for three years, and I suspect that this person is involved with the Student Government Association (SGA). He’s one of our original members. He’s been a sounding board for me, and I’m sure that he’s going to be a voice of reason for the SGA.

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When I do my laundry, I notice which machines are broken, and I usually remember to turn them off when I return. After all, if I were able to turn them off, I’d have to wash my laundry in the room to dry. I’ll let you know if I get more info.” This is a thorny organizational problem. Speaking of IIT, the April 1st Conficker virus didn’t shut down the dockets. Also I’ve got some wonderful news for IIT students. He’s been working at IIT for three years, and I suspect that this person is involved with the Student Government Association (SGA). He’s one of our original members. He’s been a sounding board for me, and I’m sure that he’s going to be a voice of reason for the SGA.

**IIT’s laundry problems**

**By Linda Goldstein**

When I do my laundry, I notice which machines are broken, and I usually remember to turn them off when I return. After all, if I were able to turn them off, I’d have to wash my laundry in the room to overflow. I’ll let you know if I get more info.” This is a thorny organizational problem. Speaking of IIT, the April 1st Conficker virus didn’t shut down the dockets. Also I’ve got some wonderful news for IIT students. He’s been working at IIT for three years, and I suspect that this person is involved with the Student Government Association (SGA). He’s one of our original members. He’s been a sounding board for me, and I’m sure that he’s going to be a voice of reason for the SGA.

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Last week I shared one example that made evident how blessed I am to be plugged into a community of Christ. Each and every day I encourage my Christian friends to continue living God, my neighbor second, and myself third. Unfortunately, many Christians who will read this article are not plugged in to that type of community.

What happens when we Christians isolate ourselves? What happens when we become so focused on what becomes of our grades when we refuse the help of a classmate in a subject we struggle with? What happens to our friendships when we sleep through Sunday morning services or do not make time in our schedules for group Bible study?

The Bible says that people who have accepted Christ as their Savior are a part of His Body, which operates similarly to a human body.

“The body is a unit, it is made up of many parts, and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. [...]. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.” (1 Cor. 12:12, 17-18)

Your physical body requires each muscle, bone, blood vessel, nerve, cell, etc. to work in harmony. Each member has a specific purpose and does something no other member can do. In the same manner, God requires the Christian church. His physical representation to the earth, to merge their strengths to save him and the broken world He loves. “From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work” (Eph. 4:16).

If you claim or once claimed Christ as your Savior, my question for you is: why have you been? Are you connected to your body of Christ? Are you being built up by God’s people and helping build them up in love? If you have ever broken a bone you know how painful it is when one of your body parts does not function the way it was meant to. Similarly, Christians suffer when we are disconnected from one another, thereby preventing us from merging our strengths into one mighty force. As a community, we are built together. How willing are you to work in unity and bandwidth to rid yourself of your weaknesses? Accept help in areas of weakness? Do you desire to be accepted and loved by people, in spite of those shortcomings? I can promise you that the beloved Christians on this campus would do anything to surround you and love you; no matter how isolated you have allowed yourself to become. Why? Because Jesus first loved us and laid down His life so we could live together in a community that could be free from the chains of sexual addiction, idolatry, depression, hopelessness, and all other sins. (1 John 4:19-20)

God’s Word is clear. He desires that the body of Christ be united on this campus. United, we will be able to love one another as Christ loves us and love all other people around us as well. It does not matter which campus ministry you are in; each one is an essential part of Christ’s body. If you love your Savior, ask Him to help you know how He desires you to give of your strengths unfailingly and accept the encouragement of others in fellowship. Whether that means church each Sunday, a small-group Bible study during the week, or a small group of friends who pray with you in the morning, it is worth the time.

You have 24 hours each day; how you use them reveals your priorities. What are you waiting for? Make uniting with Christ’s community a priority. For a list of campus ministries and information regarding their events, check out http://www.it.edu/mini/groups.html.

“You have questions about this article or would like a specific topic regarding Jesus as Christ to be addressed in a future article, please e-mail seeking.His.Spirit@gmail.com.”

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**TechNews Writer**

By Hannah Rosenthal

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**Public Safety Incident Reports**

**S MICHIGAN**

**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : SIEGEL EAST - 3100 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : BICYCLES

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : STEINBRENNER HALL - 3121 S WABASH**: INJURED/SICK PERSON : EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT/AMBULANCE : STUDENT

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : SCOTT BLDG - 3125 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : MONEY

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS : NICHOLSON HALL - 3165 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : AUTOS

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS : STIEFEL HALL - 3175 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : MONEY

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS : SIEGEL WEST - 3105 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : BICYCLES

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS : BARRETT HALL - 3115 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : MONEY

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS : SIEGEL - 3160 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : AUTOS

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : CUNNINGHAM HALL - 3100 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : BICYCLES

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : ACADEMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS : SIEGEL - 3160 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : MONEY

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : SIEGEL EAST - 3100 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : BICYCLES

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : SIEGEL - 3160 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : MONEY

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : SIEGEL EAST - 3100 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : BICYCLES

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : SIEGEL - 3160 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : MONEY

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : SIEGEL - 3160 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : MONEY

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**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY : MAIN CAMPUS : RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS : SIEGEL - 3160 S WABASH**: LARCENY/THEFT : MONEY
Battery systems – Garrett Nelson

Battery systems are the backbone of the car’s electronics, as well as the use of multiple DC-DC converters. Thus, the main battery did not have many skills besides basic lab work from school. What additional skills have you learned after joining the Formula Hybrid team? Being an electrical engineer, what attracted you to the project? Garrett: This project is very unique in that you get to take the theories you learn in the classroom and put them to use. Formula Hybrid gave me the chance to show what I have learned and could do, as well as what a group of students can accomplish when they work together as a team. What skills did you have when you joined the team? What additional skills have you learned after joining the team? Garrett: When I joined the Formula Hybrid team, I did not have many skills besides basic lab work from school.

Academic dishonesty is an issue of critical importance to academic institutions. Cheating and plagiarism are significant issues on our college and university campuses and requires prevention and detection strategies. Yet, reducing the level of cheating among students is not enough. Strategies must be developed and communicated to faculty and students alike to encourage greater levels of academic integrity, powering the drive motor. It can be recharged by any one of the following ways: regenerative braking (converting kinetic energy to electrical energy), the car’s gasoline generator, or an off-board charger. Safety is a very important aspect when working with high voltage electrical systems. The competition’s rule book for the battery system is about 50 pages long and multiple rules focus on the safety of the driver and the student mechanics who work on the car. Many fail-safe methods and switches are facilitated on the car to avoid any dangerous situations. IIT’s BMS continuously monitors the battery voltage, current and temperature, and predetermined range is set for safely operating conditions. If any discrepancies occur, the disengaged and the battery pack is isolated from the vehicle’s electrical systems. Our interview with the battery expert on the electrical aspect of the team is with Garrett Nelson (MS EE ’10). Garrett finished his bachelor’s degree from IIT and was part of the team for the last two years. Garrett worked on various electrical systems and primarily focused on the battery system. He is now pursuing his M.S. and is the Electrical Team Leader for the Formula Hybrid team. The following are some of the answers he gave in an interview.

Being an electrical engineer, what attracted you to the Formula Hybrid competition for the last two years? Garrett: This project is very unique in that you get to take the theories you learn in the classroom and put them to use. Formula Hybrid gave me the chance to show what I have learned and could do, as well as what a group of students can accomplish when they work together as a team. What skills did you have when you joined the team? What additional skills have you learned after joining the team? Garrett: When I joined the Formula Hybrid team, I did not have many skills besides basic lab work from school.
Many job seekers are looking for openings within their field wherever they can find them. There are many benefits to broadening your job search to look outside your immediate surroundings. As you widen the geographic area of your job search, you are going to find more opportunities for positions in your field. Moving to another location may provide a sense of adventure that comes with living in a new, fresh setting. Other benefits of long distance job searching may be to move closer to friends and family or earn a higher salary.

No matter the reason for long distance job searching, there are challenges that come along with it. Many job seekers are unsure how to go about managing a long distance job search. This article covers a few tips to help you improve your long distance job search.

As a beginning of your search, start by identifying the contacts you have in the region where you are looking. Give them a call, send them an email, or contact them through Facebook or LinkedIn. Tell them you are planning/contemplating a move to the area and you would like a few minutes of their time to ask for some advice.

When you talk with them, be considerate of your contact’s time. If they work in your field, ask them about the industry and their company. If they do not work in the same field as you do, ask if they have any contacts within your field of interest. They may be able to put you in contact with others in the field. Even if they do not work in the field and do not know anyone who works in the field, you can still gain valuable information for a new professional about the area, including cost of living, areas to look for housing, social activities, etc.

If your contact has connections to your field or a company of interest, ask them if they would be willing to forward your resume to a recruiter or supervisor. When someone familiar of interest asks for your resume, they will often spend a little more time looking at the resume. This may be just the break you need to get an interview. Make sure your resume is error free so that you make the best possible first impression.

Employers want to know you are interested in their company and the position they have available. One way to demonstrate interest is through educating yourself on the company. This will enable you to carry an intelligent conversation about the company and how you can meet its needs and goals. Start your research by checking out the company’s website. Branch out from there through methods like reading the company’s LinkedIn website and checking local newspapers. Another, often overlooked, easy way to gather information about a company or an industry is through setting up a Google Alert. Through a Google Alert you will receive emails consisting of articles from newspapers, journals, blogs, and other media with recent information about your company or industry of choice.

While doing a long distance job search, it is important to be prepared for a phone interview. Often companies will ask for an initial interview over the phone, so they can save money and time in getting a general idea if you are a good fit for the company. Prepare for the phone interview in a similar manner to in-person interviews, by researching the company and knowing yourself. When you speak with an employer make sure you are in a place where you will not be interrupted. Use a land-line phone instead of a cellular phone. This will decrease the possibility that you will get disconnected. Next, think about dressing professionally for the phone interview. Even though the interviewer will not see you, this can help you feel confident and get in the right mindset for the interview. Finally, make sure to print your resume; a job description, a list of questions and a few relevant facts about the company. These will provide you with “cheat sheets” to refer to throughout the interview.

Finally, it is important that you plan ahead financially for a long-distance job search. Depending on the field you are entering, the job search may be expensive. Eventually, most companies will want you to come to their office to meet them in person. Some companies will pay for your travel; other companies simply do not have the funds to do so and will ask you to cover the expenses. On top of interview expenses, you also need to consider the cost of relocation, which companies may or may not cover. Make sure to consider the added expenses that may come with a long distance job search and relocation so that you are able to take advantage of all opportunities of interest.

If you have any questions about a long distance job search or would like career counseling, visit the Career Management Center website at www.cmc.iit.edu or stop by the CMC office to make plans to meet with an advisor.

Illustration by Berna Oltuoglu Kiezic

Illinois Tech Robotics: JSDC Creative Design Award winners

By Christopher L. Jones

Technews writer

Over spring break, Illinois Tech Robotics (ITR) competed in the 22nd annual Jerry Sanders Creative Design Competition sponsored by AMD at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This year’s robots compete in a dynamic, 4 robot game of tic-tac-toe where they score colored balloons in 9 goals around the field. The 150 lb robots navigate the 40’ square, multi-level field, through contact zones in a free-for-all melee that saw many robots upended.

Thursday’s kickoff saw an explosion of activity in the gym as off-campus teams brought in a diverse sampling of robots and set up shop. The shortened day proceeded as expected and after testing the robot, the team retired to the hotel to discuss strategy and prepare for Friday. This included configuring our in-match strategizing, where our driver, spotter and someone in the stands all connect to a wireless network on the robot and converse over Teamspeak during the match, allowing them to coordinate strategy in real-time from multiple perspectives.

Friday saw the start of qualification matches, where teams earn cumulative points across nine rounds while they work out bugs and compete to qualify for the finals. Although ITR had wireless issues in the first match, the team followed up with a solid performance scoring so many balloons that the field management actually ran out of that color and there were 2 minutes remaining in the 10 minute match! ITR finished that match with 240 points and the 20 balloons available during that contest became the official limit for balloons given to a team in a match. By the end of Friday, ITR had a solid 100+ point lead in 1st place! What was even more satisfying was ITR’s ability to offer assistance as engineers and by sharing tools with other teams who had robot issues.

Saturday morning the game design committee, in an effort to spread out the strategy and intensify the game, upped the end-of-match bonus for a tic-tac-toe from 5 points to 30. While this definitely impacted the strategy of the game, ITR finished the qualification matches in 1st place! During this time, Grant Imahara (whose presentation the team saw Thursday night in the auditorium) stopped by the pits to check out the robots. He spoke with the team for a while and he was highly impressed with the robot. After stopping by the pits a couple of times, he signed and drove the robot, and the team took a great picture. While ITR didn’t make it through the finals, it turns out that Grant was actually judging robots for the Jerry Sanders Creative Design Competition’s title award: Best Creative Design. Apparently, he really liked the ITR robot and chose Illinois Tech Robotics as the award recipient! It’s quite an honor to be chosen for an award like this by someone who has spent his career designing amazing robots.

After a successful and intense weekend, the team returned to Chicago an excited and exhausted group. Congratulations to everyone who contributed to the robot, the Creative Design Award was earned by each of you. I’m especially proud of the teamwork and professionalism the team interacted and the immense good will we demonstrated in providing assistance to other teams. The team made great new friends and will build on those relationships and connections to help bring more of that gracious professionalism to the competition.
Here are the questions:

1. What is your name?
2. What does your name mean?
3. Why did you pick that name? Does it mean anything?

It all started on one fateful day in organic chem class. Zoneing out as always, we knew we needed to pick a name for our show, and we decided to go with a ridiculous name. Organic chemists referenced carbon compounds: dienophiles! But then we thought about dinosaurs and decided to add the “er” to the end of it, which resulted in “diendoer.” We mean it, but that’s how we came up with the Dienophiles. (Actually... it was Hamza’s idea, which explains a lot.) Half a year later, and we’re still stuck with the name. For some reason people still think our show is about chemistry, but ironically after two years, we know little to nothing about the subject.

4. What kind of music do you play? / What do you talk about?

We play mostly alternative rock, indie, emo, and dance music, but we have been known to mix it up a lot. Usually we range from R&B to hip-hop, some rap, and J-pop too, in our lesser moments, country. In the end, we’re more than happy to play your requests so call in! As far as what we talk about, we often discuss anything from events on campus to random musings that just happen to pass through our brains.
Tuesday, April 7

CMC Workshop: Becoming a Certified Candidate
12-1pm, CMC, Galvin Library
Come and visit the CMC’s workshop on how to become the certified candidate that IIT will endorse!

English Conversation Program: Talk Time on Religion
12:50pm, MTCC Ballroom
English Conversation Program “Talk Time” is a monthly casual meeting where international students can discuss a variety of cultural issues with domestic and international students, faculty and staff.

Wednesday, April 8

TechNews Writers Meeting
1:10pm, TechNews office (MC322)
Want to write about something? Have a gripe about the issue? Need to take some photos? Need to get paid? TechNews is here

Heartland Blood Centers Blood Drive
10:30am-4pm, MTCC Ballroom
Come and donate blood and help someone in need at this blood drive hosted by Heartland Blood Centers.

CMC Workshop: Getting a Job - Writing Job Search Letters
12-1pm, CMC, Galvin Library
Unsure how to write a letter to a company that you may be interested in working for? Come to the CMC workshop to learn how to write a job search letter.

SGA Executive Board Debates
5-8pm, MTCC Welcome Center
SGA’s executive board candidates will conduct their debates on Wednesday night. Come and watch and even participate in these debates as the candidates make their cases as to why they are the best for their position.

Thursday, April 9

Hawk-Eye Student Organization Workshop: Frustration-Free Finance
12:45pm, MTCC Auditorium
Want to know how to have frustration free financing for your student organization? Come to the Office of Student Life in their Hawk-Eye series for this installment about frustration-free finance.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship Academy Monthly Meeting
12:50-1:50pm, Alumni Lounge, HU8
IEA will hold its monthly meeting, and Ms. Kelly Cutler, Co-Founder and CEO of Marcel Media will be speaking. Lunch will be provided.

Friday, April 10

Undergraduate Student Forum on Tuition Increase with President Anderson
12:45-1:45pm, Hermann Hall Ballroom
President Anderson and Provost Cramb will host an undergraduate student forum to discuss next year’s tuition increase. Lunch will be provided.

Bridges International Easter Banquet
5:30pm, MTCC Ballroom
All international students are invited to enjoy a sumptuous Easter dinner and celebrate this important holiday with friends and guest speaker Oscar Leiva.

ISA Cultural Night
8pm, Herman Hall Auditorium
Tickets sold from April 6-9, 12-2pm and 5-7pm, and at the door. The ISA will be putting on their cultural night, come and join them for a night of good food getting a glimpse of Indian culture.

Saturday, April 11

RENT
8-10:30pm, Oriental Theatre
UB is programmers bring you tickets to see RENT, the seventh longest running show in Broadway history! Contact UB for more details or check their website at ub.iit.edu.

TechNews submissions due!
11:59pm, technews.iit.edu
Want to get an article or photo into the February 3 edition of TechNews? Now is your last chance!

Sunday, April 12

ISA Holi Lunch 2009
12:30pm, Delta Tau Delta House
Celebrate Holi, the Hindu Festival of Colors with ISA and the delts! Tickets are on sale on the MTCC Bridge from 12-2pm and 5-7pm, as well as at the door.

SGA Debates.

Co-sponsored by TechNews.

50% harder hitting than the leading brand.

Wednesday, 5:00pm-8:00pm, MTCC Welcome Center
Illinois Institute of Technology’s student chapter of Society of Automotive Engineers last week hosted an open house for the faculty of MMAE department at IIT. Many esteemed faculty took an hour from their busy Friday afternoon to see the major project the SAE students team is working on – Formula Hybrid Competition (FHC).

IIT SAE team has been participating for the past two years in the Formula Hybrid Competition organized by the international organization, Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and Dartmouth College. The team’s faculty advisors have been Dr Ali Emadi from the ECE Department and Prof. Francisco Ruiz from the MMAE department. The industrial and race advisor is Ron Sokol, a professional in the racing circuit.

For the Open House event, the MMAE department chair, Prof. Jamal Yagoobi was in attendance. He appreciated the work the students were doing and inspected the two hybrid racing cars that were on display. Prof. Yagoobi is an active supporter, and funded the Society last year for the competition. Prof. Sheldon Mostovoy Cundice Wark also attended the event and interacted with students. The students, lead by Anthony Casteneda, Joseph Krause and John McCluskey explained the project details to various professors. The team is currently working on the finishing the third hybrid race car in as many years. This car will feature more output power than its predecessors and is likely to be the front runner in this year’s competition, according to one team member.

The event was sponsored by SAE and the MMAE department and was a nice social event after a relaxed spring break for both professors and students. More student-professor events like these in the future would be a valuable experience for IIT students.
Resident Evil 5 keeps you coming back for more

By Carlito E. Cabada, Jr.

TECH NEWS WRITER

Contrary to previous games in the series, Resident Evil 5 is no longer about the scares or the tension. Instead, Capcom’s latest installment is an action game on a completely different level! The more blatant shift in focus may be upsetting to long-time fans, comparing Resident Evil 5 to its predecessors would be doing it a great disservice, as it’s a completely new action title all on its own, and it’s also a phenomenal way to start off the spring season of gaming.

Resident Evil 5 stars Chris Redfield (protagonist of the original Resident Evil) and Sheva Alomar, two agents of an anti-bioweapons organization. Initially, the two are sent to Kijiju, a fictional African nation, to prevent a bioweapon called Uroboros from surfacing. However, a run-in with hostile localsunlinksi-to Las Plagas in Resident Evil 4 and the T-Virus in the first Resident Evil. Aside from discovering the root of the various infections, Chris is also trying to locate his former partner, Jill Valentine. The plot driving Resident Evil 5 only exists to tie up loose ends.

Given the complex timeline the writers had to deal with, the story is certainly competent to anyone not familiar with key events. As someone who’s spent time with both games, plot holes and conspiracies within the narrative, in this case, was satisfied with Resident Evil 5’s plot. I will say, however, anyone going into this game without prior interest will probably not find much reason to care about the happenings, but for previous games, the fine details have to be read in files and journal entries; it’s not the best way to present a story, but it helps put things in context.

Gameplay wasn’t handled in the best way either, since it adopted the same control scheme from Resident Evil 4 with a few tweaks. Personally, I loved how Resident Evil 4 felt, and not being able to move and shoot at the same time is no big deal. It is apparent, though, that the enemies are much more aggressive and attack in larger quantities. The pacing of the shooting doesn’t quite align with the surroundings, making for a number of overwhelming moments that end in frustration. That’s even with a second character aiming and shooting just the same; a quick stick or dodge button would have worked wonders.

Having a computer-controlled partner alleviates some of the workload, but most of the time it wastes ammo on poorly placed shots and takes its sweet time when it comes to healing or resuscitating my character. On the flipside, having audio cues for boss strategies and easily overlooked items was helpful, especially on my first-playthrough and the partner AI became better at shooting when I played on a harder difficulty, but the benefits of having a single player are outweighed by the benefits of playing multiplayer coop.

When playing with someone through either split screen or online co-op, the game truly begins to shine. Resident Evil 5 was thoroughly designed as a two-player experience, some situations will cause the two characters to split up, requiring each person to keep a careful eye on their partner as they fight their way through hordes of infected denizens. Beyond all the shooting, puzzles don’t require more than one brain to solve, but the process is expedited when both players know the solution.

As stated before, Resident Evil 5 is more about the action than the games that came before it and it’s nothing but a double-edged sword. On one hand, this comes at the expense of some scenes. Capcom attempted to compensate by offering a plethora of disgusting-looking monstrosities, but I still cringe more than cowse. Aside from the racial baggage the game carries (another example of the realm of this review), I didn’t much like the large spiders nor the giant human-shaped creature. I suppose it is appropriate, considering how this series is called Biohazard overseas in Japan.

Still, the action adds a lot to the presentational value behind the game. The gunplay is brutal, the battles are cinematic, and the many technical feats (NOTE: making-of video impressions)

Lenovo IdeaPad Y650 pricey but innovative

By Kamakshi Palakodety

TECH NEWS EDITOR

So you saw the Apple MacBook come and go. You tried buying it, but things just didn’t go your way at that time. It was love at first sight when you saw its sleek and sexy design and thought you’d be yours and yours only…

Ok, maybe you weren’t as desperate as I made it sound! But the MacBook has put up a stiff fight on the laptop market, and it’s safe to say that for all those looking for a MacBook, Lenovo’s IdeaPad Y650 is a viable, yet far more affordable option.

Presenting the one and only Lenovo IdeaPad Y650. Sorry, I don’t come up with the names here. Gone are the days of bulk! Lenovo’s IdeaPad Y650 is a 16-inch laptop with dimensions of 15.3 x 10.3 x 1 inches. Lenovo seems to have put their laptops on a strict diet, as the IdeaPad Y650 weighs only 5.5 pounds and is the lightest in its group so far. Several factors contributed to its petite figure! The 42-Wh battery can last for 3 hours and 5 minutes. Not bad at all!

Lenovo IdeaPad Y650 is available in the markets at a current price of $1399. Don’t the portable baby cost? Brace yourselves: the Lenovo IdeaPad Y650 is a portable baby! The IdeaPad Y650 is simply a game that has me coming back for more, whether its the Mercury side game or the large amount of unlockables in the game itself. It’s true to life. If Killzone 2 hadn’t dropped in a few weeks ago, I would’ve proclaimed this as the best-looking console game released so far.

It’s easy for me to seeaws between aspects of Resident Evil 5 that I liked and aspects I disliked, but pointing out the flaws had no bearing on my overall enjoyment of the game. The separate parts that make up the game are debatable, yet the lump sum is a package worthy of my praise. I saw many ways improvements could’ve been made and it’s very curious how my appreciation isn’t hindered whatsoever.

In the end, Resident Evil 5 is simply a game that has me coming back for more, whether its the Mercury side game or the large amount of unlockables in the game itself. It’s true to life. If Killzone 2 hadn’t dropped in a few weeks ago, I would’ve proclaimed this as the best-looking console game released so far.

The IdeaPad Y650 has a 2.4 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor, with a 160 GB hard disk drive, 4GB of DDR2 SDRAM memory, and a 16X DVD burner. Can’t do without one in today’s world, can we? The port in of sync with the tech world. JBL stands for James Bullough Lansing, the founder of Harman International, which is the giant that owns the JBL electronics company. Go figure!

As mentioned before, a few corners had to be cut to achieve the slim figure the Y650 laptop has. One of them was the reduction in battery size. But I warn you, don’t be fooled by its petite figure! The 42-WH battery can last for 3 hours and 5 minutes. Not bad at all!

So, coming to the moths, how much does this petite portable baby cost? Brace yourselves: the Lenovo IdeaPad Y650 is available in the markets at a current price of $1399. Don’t the Lenovo people know our wallets are just as slim and sleek as their tech new? Lenovo IdeaPad Y650 is simply a game that has me coming back for more, whether its the Mercury side game or the large amount of unlockables in the game itself. It’s true to life. If Killzone 2 hadn’t dropped in a few weeks ago, I would’ve proclaimed this as the best-looking console game released so far.

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Now you can smoke in cyberspace!

By Kamakshi Palakodety
TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Smokers and non-smokers everywhere can rejoice now. Thanks to some latest technology, people can now smoke cigarettes without having to worry about stained teeth, high nicotine levels in blood and bad breath after smoking. Introducing the Smoking Everywhere Electronic Cigarette -- the cigarette that gives you everything a real cigarette does, minus the unwanted side-effects.

The Electronic Cigarette is a product of Smoking Everywhere, LLC, which is a Florida based company aiming for healthier, environment-friendly alternatives to traditional comic book letters, illustrating various onomatopoeia leap out in bright yellow text, blood splurts about in dark red, while the rest of the world is dark and gritty. the game also runs quite smoothly. I’ve only run into a few bouts of slowdown while playing, and even then I feel flattered that I’ve managed to create such chaos. Sure, it doesn’t hold a candle to some of the games on 360 and PS3, but the cell shaded imagery is a good substitute to extremely high resolution textures.

The core gameplay is simple: you’re dropped into a small, free roaming environment with the sole purpose of exterminating as many enemies as possible within the time limit provided. It’s really standard beat ‘em up fare. However, where this game delivers is the extremely satisfying combat system. For every enemy you defeat, you gain a set number of points – by beating enemies in creative ways and utilizing the environment to do so, you build up more and more combo points. For example, you can stick a guy in a tire, stuff a trumpet through his head, and then toss him into a river. As you progress through different levels, more varied tools of destruction open up. Though this does provide quite a bit of variety, you’re stuck working with a small set of animations. This means that you can stick a guy in a tire or a steel drum or a statue, but it’s going to look and function basically the same. Unfortunately, this does become repetitive after awhile. Thankfully, there are a few things that break the monotony. The premise of the game involves the main character, Jack, as he enters a deadly game show taking place on a city cut off from the outside world. It’s a matter of kill or be killed, a la the Gladiators of old, as you attempt to find out who’s calling the shots behind the terrorist action that placed the city under siege. There’s all sorts of spooky intrigue and mediocre storytelling, but it’s enough to keep things interesting. The highlight of the game, however, are the raucously obscene voice overs by in game emcees played by Greg Proops (Whose Line is It Anyway?) and John DiMaggio (Futurama). They constantly argue and quip over the in-game action, occasionally breaking the fourth wall, but always being funny. It’s been quite awhile since I’ve laughed out loud at a game, and this game has kept me chuckling. And for voice over geeks out there like me, the main character is voiced by Steven Blum (Cowboy Bebop) and another character is voiced by Dwight Schultz (A-Team, Star Trek: Next Generation, Killer 7). Despite the repetitiveness, the game is really quite an experience, and for sure a welcome addition to any gamer’s Wii library.

Now you can smoke in cyberspace!
Mid-April comic review frenzy!

By Erik Johnson

It’s been a wild week in comics, what with the leak of Wolverine: Origins (which ruins Deadpool, by the way) and the release of all sorts of sweet new books. If you’re looking for a beacon of light in the chaos, I’ve got two new books worth checking out.

X-Men: Manifest Destiny; Nightcrawler #1

I’ve always felt that the fewer subtitles a comic has, the better it is. Luckily, this issue clocks in at only two subtitles, leaving it at a pretty good title to subtitle ratio and a pretty good comic.

Since I first started reading comic books when I was little (by picking up random issues of Excalibur), Nightcrawler has always been one of my favorite superheroes. He’s a spooky looking blue dude that teleports around and sword fights. How cool is that? He’s always been a fascinating character, and I was excited to see a first issue of a book starring him on the shelf—particularly since I’ve not been following X-Men at all lately.

The first thing I noticed about this book was the beautiful artwork. The penciling by Jorge Molina and Ardian Syaf is incredibly crisp and clean, but is a bit on the stylized side. It doesn’t try to be too realistic, and the exaggerated features are really appealing. In addition, the coloring by John Rauch is beautiful, creating an extremely vibrant book. After I read through it the first time, I took another read through just to look at all the pretty pictures. Heck, I’d recommend this book on the art alone.

The story is simple, Kurt has decided he’s going to leave the X-Men because he’s feeling like he can’t contribute to the team. It’s a sort of superhero midlife crisis deal, and he’s been invited to an opening of a Nightcrawler museum that has opened up back in his hometown. Of course, things are not all they seem, and conflict ensues. What follows is a brief coming of age story of another mutant that eventually serves to reaffirm Kurt’s self-confidence. It was all pretty touching, and I won’t deny that I may have shed a comic book guy tear or two while reading it on the L.

This is definitely a book to check out, particularly if you want an X-Men story without having to worry about the insanely complex mess of X-Men continuity. There are a few small bits that require prior X-Men knowledge to fully appreciate, but for the most part, this book is easily accessible.

Haunted Tank #4

Frank Marraffino’s Haunted Tank series is a reboot of an older DC series which features American soldiers being assisted by the ghost of a Confederate Soldier. It’s an interesting and fun concept, and Marraffino has done a pretty good job translating the series to modern theaters of war.

Of course, the current series takes place in Iraq and it feels like most war comics do, as it shifts back and forth between dark and gritty to “hoorah, let’s kick some butt!” However, Marraffino has made some changes to the series which make things quite interesting. In this series, our Confederate ghost is protecting a platoon led by an African American soldier. Obviously, this creates some interesting conflict, and the books have not been afraid to approach racism - Marraffino takes a lot of time to draw parallels between Black/White issues and White/Middle-Eastern issues as the troops travel through the Middle East. It’s interesting, but occasionally borders on preachy.

The art is good for the most part. Occasionally it’s hard to tell some of the characters apart, but a lot of that is just due to the similarities in uniform and overall dark color palette Henry Flint has selected. It’s also printed on newsprint, so folks that prefer their comics to be on slick magazine paper might want to look elsewhere.

Unfortunately, the series seems to be flattening out. What was originally a really fun concept, has kind of worn a bit old, and I don’t feel like the pacing is quite there. The book plods along, devoting a lot of time to arguing between the characters and the Confederate ghost. Now, I don’t expect this to be as action packed as, say, a Deadpool book, but Haunted Tank is a slow, almost boring read.

It is definitely worth checking out, for the novelty if anything else. I’d recommend the first few issues over this one, as the dialogue in those provides some laughs, whereas things have kind of dried up by this fourth issue.

Hungry? Take the Red Line to Star of Siam!

By Nicole Gregory

It’s the weekend, you have free time (as free as your time can get at IIT, anyway), and you’re hungry. You could make do with what’s left at the Commons. You could poke around 7-11 until you find something satisfactory, or at least something that isn’t completely mysterious in its chemical makeup. You could do these things and live quite agreeably until the next meal time. But, if you’re like me and have some standards (which, for me, is code for “my taste buds are easily bored, you may want to look elsewhere. Might I make a very strong suggestion?”)

The Star of Siam has been a favorite Thai restaurant of mine since I discovered it my sophomore year. A hole-in-the-wall restaurant kitty-corner from the Grand stop on the red line, it boasts a well-priced and well-populated menu as well as a trendy and clean interior. I ordered one of my favorites, Pad See Ew and Thai Iced Coffee, while my dining companion chose Tempura, Thai Iced Tea, and a dish that involved Lychee fruit.

Let me clarify. I am a food snob from San Francisco. I know my food, especially when it comes to sushi and Thai. I have had many an unimpressive Thai experience here in Chicago, often involving too much salt or grease. Star of Siam is by far and away the best Thai food I have had in Chicago. My Pad See Ew came with just the right amount of sauce and perfectly firm and fresh bok choy. My friend’s tempura consisted of shrimp and assorted fresh vegetables lightly battered in tempura (a crispy batter made of cold water and wheat flour), as opposed to a shriveled, sad little thing drowning in grease and tempura as per my usual tempura experience.

The restaurant was set up using mostly reds and browns. The warm lighting brings about a relaxed atmosphere, as do the wood columns and colorful wall hangings. The restaurant is very open, consisting of one large room with a number of supporting columns. I myself was sitting across from a display of colorful hats, and by looking blue dude that teleports around and sword fights. How cool is that? He’s always been a fascinating character, and I was excited to see a first issue of a book starring him on the shelf—particularly since I’ve not been following X-Men at all lately.

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By Nicole Gregory

It’s the weekend, you have free time (as free as your time can get at IIT, anyway), and you’re hungry. You could make do with what’s left at the Commons. You could poke around 7-11 until you find something satisfactory, or at least something that isn’t completely mysterious in its chemical makeup. You could do these things and live quite agreeably until the next meal time. But, if you’re like me and have some standards (which, for me, is code for “my taste buds are easily bored, you may want to look elsewhere. Might I make a very strong suggestion?”)

The Star of Siam has been a favorite Thai restaurant of mine since I discovered it my sophomore year. A hole-in-the-wall restaurant kitty-corner from the Grand stop on the red line, it boasts a well-priced and well-populated menu as well as a trendy and clean interior. I ordered one of my favorites, Pad See Ew and Thai Iced Coffee, while my dining companion chose Tempura, Thai Iced Tea, and a dish that involved Lychee fruit.

Let me clarify. I am a food snob from San Francisco. I know my food, especially when it comes to sushi and Thai. I have had many an unimpressive Thai experience here in Chicago, often involving too much salt or grease. Star of Siam is by far and away the best Thai food I have had in Chicago. My Pad See Ew came with just the right amount of sauce and perfectly firm and fresh bok choy. My friend’s tempura consisted of shrimp and assorted fresh vegetables lightly battered in tempura (a crispy batter made of cold water and wheat flour), as opposed to a shriveled, sad little thing drowning in grease and tempura as per my usual tempura experience.

The restaurant was set up using mostly reds and browns. The warm lighting brings about a relaxed atmosphere, as do the wood columns and colorful wall hangings. The restaurant is very open, consisting of one large room with a number of supporting columns. I myself was sitting across from a display of colorful hats, and by
Quantum of Solace enjoyable, unremarkable

By Jonathan Mikesell

Platform
PC, PlayStation 3, Xbox 360
Genre
First Person Shooter
The Huntdown
You play as secret agent James Bond through the action sequences of both of the Daniel Craig era Bond movies plus additional non-storyline missions thwarting the interests of the shadowy Quantum organization.

Graphics
Quantum of Solace uses the Call of Duty 4-engine, re-tooled to achieve more of a bright and clean movie look. As such it is an above-average looking game, and it does succeed not only in faithfully recreating several famous scenes, but also in making them look good.

Sound
The voice-over quality is very high, and the orchestral score is suitably dramatic and polished Bond material.

Gameplay
There is nothing original about the way this game plays. It tries to copy the cover-centric set-piece shootout play of Gears of War, the la carte loadout system of the Call of Duty franchise, and live-or-die quick-time sequences which are fast becoming cliché. There isn’t necessarily anything wrong with taking so many ideas from other games, but there are many things wrong with the way some of these are implemented in this game.

Like so many shooters, this game sports linear single-player levels broken up by scripted events. This makes the game feel fake, and in situations where you can’t find the one unremarkable pipe you can climb up to proceed it is frustrating.

Clinging to cover is of paramount importance in shootouts. In the open, the incredibly trigger-happy yet thankfully inaccurate enemies will spray at you in great volume, rapidly disorienting and killing you. However, even when crouching behind a mere wooden box, Bond is nearly bulletproof, and within a second or two of not being shot he will regain all his health. Then he can pop out and fire very accurately and with the help of some degree of initial automatic aiming or simply blind fire with relatively good accuracy without leaving the cover at all.

Unfortunately, the designers didn’t make it possible in many situations to jump over cover, forcing you to run completely around it for protection if attacked from the rear. Quick-time events occur whenever Bond attempts to beat an enemy to death rather than shooting them and during some special sequences. Mess up and you will probably die instantly, succeed and you get an easy kill.

Regrettably, the single-player gameplay is not very long or varied, and so gets old quickly.

The multiplayer incorporates a variety of modes including old-school FPS free foralls with weapons scattered across the map, VIP, bomb planting, and more.

In most modes the player can choose his preferred weapons, grenades, and ‘gadgets’ (which are decidedly mundane things like extra health or quick reload) geared towards his playstyle. There really is nothing wrong with the game in this area, but it also isn’t very impressive.

Final Verdict
2.5 out of 5

Overall
Quantum of Solace is an unremarkable yet somewhat enjoyable game that goes well with the recent Bond films.

MSTRKRT at the Co-Prosperity Sphere

By Karl Rybaltowski

This past Saturday, I made my way to the free MSTRKRT show at the Co-Prosperity Sphere in Bridgeport, giving me another reason to go wandering in the neighborhood. Having missed my last few opportunities to see their live show for one reason or another, I told myself nothing would stop me this time around. Though the crowd and the opening act made me reconsider my decision at times, I’m glad I stuck to my guns.

I’d hate to replicate opinions, so I don’t think I need to get into detail on what I thought of opener Bird Peterson (underwhelming). It would suffice to say that I was very relieved once MSTRKRT finally took the stage. As a “MySpace Secret Show,” this concert stuck to the similar formula for these – classy space – with, of course, corporate advertisement (Citi Forward here) and the MySpace logo literally strewing the venue. Given the location (close to campus and even closer to my apartment) and the cost (nothing), it was a pretty easy sell.

Of course, the implications of the MySpace backing and that dreaded “all-ages” classification failed to register for me, and as a result I was not prepared for the crowd of hormonal, high-schooling high-schoolers present. There were representatives of higher age brackets, but we were in the minority (I’m aware of the irony of associating myself with adults – this was one of those things where I truly felt old, even as a college student). But I’m lingering too much on demographic breakdown, so let me bring things back to the focus – the show.

MSTRKRT are a Toronto-based indie electronic duo, consisting of Jesse Keeler (formerly of Death From Above 1979) and Al-P. After years of collaborative efforts, they finally teamed up in earliest, and since then have put out a bevy of remixes and two full-length albums. The second, Fist of God, was supported by a US tour that brought MSTRKRT to the Double Door a few months back. Their music generally consists of basic beats with sampling that evokes heavy rock overlaid upon them. There are some house-inspired bass lines thrown in on top of the mix, and the result is a rather unique sound.

After some of their remixes and a re-issue of their first album, MSTRKRT was able to do some work with more big-name artists, and so artists like John Legend, Ghostface Killah, and E-40 make appearances on Fist of God. The album, however, has been getting mixed reviews, which could be a cause for concern for someone who, say, has just decided to go see them live. But their live set, even though it used a lot of this new material, did not disappoint.

MSTRKRT live up to their name, to put things concisely. Their set, which consisted of an hour of non-stop music, drew heavily from their latest album, Fist of God, while incorporating tracks and elements from older releases and plenty of new material. Peppered among these were some recognizable remixes, such as Daft Punk’s “Celebrate” or Justice’s “D.A.N.C.E.” They also did an excellent job of keeping a good flow to the music, lingering on some particularly energetic points, and carefully constructing build-ups and wind-downs within the mix – especially surprising, considering that both of the DJs were sipping a bottle of Crown Royal at peace.
Across
1. Has debts
7. Cracked open
10. Love of life in Paris
11. Cattail, e.g.
12. 100-lb. units
13. Disaster
18. It may be tipped
19. Mother-of-pearl source
20. The “L” of L.A.
21. Traipe sites, briefly
23. “The Matrix” hero
24. Grand ___, Nova Scotia
26. Certified (accounts)
28. Narrowed
31. Annoy
32. Col.’s superior
33. Allegiance
36. Baggage handlers
38. Brew
39. 180° from WNW
41. Bud
42. A long way
43. Hair soap
46. News agency initials
51. “That’s a ___!”
52. Pipe problem
53. Olympic goals
54. Hotfooted it
55. Gave the once-over

Down
1. First name in TV talk
2. Booted out
3. Fountain order
4. Post-op time
5. Agree out of court
6. Cynthia of “Sex And The City”
7. Eyebrow shape
8. Diamond merchant
9. Puts on the line
10. Love of life in Paris
11. Cattail, e.g.
12. 100-lb. units
13. Disaster
14. Lacking flavor
15. Hourglass fill
16. Carrot, e.g.
17. Philadelphia stew
22. Competitor
25. Oscar de la
26. MSN competitor
27. Phone no. add-on
29. Back them
30. ___ Moines
31. Annoy
32. Col.’s superior
33. Allegiance
36. Baggage handlers
38. Brew
39. 180° from WNW
40. Beams
42. A long way
43. Hair soap
46. News agency initials
51. “That’s a ___!”
52. Pipe problem
53. Olympic goals
54. Hotfooted it
55. Gave the once-over

Regional Population Density
\[ P_d \]
Average Person’s Frequency of Sex
\[ X_f \]
Average Duration of Sex
\[ X_d \]

\[ r = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi P_d X_f X_d}} \]

On average, someone within distance \( r \) of you is having sex.

Mmm, that probable couple 150 meters away is so hot.
Oh yeah, theoretically work it, baby.

Hey! no statistical voyeurism!
Illinois Tech’s Tech Runs Around Chicago (TRAC) club member OB Vincent braved the wind, slush and cold with more than 13,000 other runners in Sunday’s Shamrock Shuffle 8K, placing 65th overall with a time of 27:44.

The Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle is the unofficial kickoff race of the Chicago road racing season and typically has a field consisting of the top runners in and out of the Chicagoland area. Vincent qualified for a T100 corral start among these top runners by placing in the top 50 male runners in last year’s race with a time of 27:22. This year’s field also included American women’s 8K record holder and Olympian Deena Kastor and runners from the Hanson-Brooks Distance Project team.

Inclement weather conditions kept more than half of the registrants from participating and likely contributed to the slowest recorded time by a number one male finisher in the past six years of Shamrock Shuffle race data. Vincent was training to run a sub-27 minute time on race day for a personal record (PR) and a 2010 T100 corral qualification time, but post-race he said was satisfied with his effort and performance given the conditions. Matt Lacey, TRAC assistant coach, speculated that race times for all finishers were likely about one minute slower than they would have been in better weather conditions.

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The Illinois Tech Cycling Team is in midseason and going strong. With a great start in the Midwest Conference, they are in a strong position to make a run at the national title, and each training camp over Spring Break, the team is宿舍

The team’s first race was on February 28th at Murray State in Kentucky. Members Ryan Ruidera (“Little Ryan”), Danny Fochtman, and Chase Wolford competed in categories A, B, and D, respectively. Like typical races, the team gets 8 laps of the 8 mile loop with rolling hills and one moderate climb, all made more difficult by consistent and solid winds. In the D racer, Chase Wolford went off for his first race ever. 50 riders went out with him to ride one lap of 16 miles. He started really strong and stayed in the front of the pack for the first 7 miles, but then got flat in his rear wheel, that effectively ended his race. In his first race, he lined up with 30 other riders for 48 miles total. The first lap was taken easily as the pack felt the course and no one was on his wheel. On the second lap, two Indiana University riders attacked on the middle. He worked with some DePaul riders and the rest of the main group for about a 4 minute lead on the main pack. Danny attacked the middle going into the last lap to try and stay away for the rest of the race. Ryan had a great race and took 4th overall in the men’s race.

Ryan’s A race started pretty much like the gun. There were steady attacks throughout the race, making sure he didn’t miss the winning break. He bridged to a few breaks early but the pack was set on chasing everyone down. Ryan had a great start and was out right away. Again the leaders thought they were going. Ryan had to chase for 1/2 a lap to get back to the leaders. Again the leaders thought this was the final lap so they sprinted again and this time Ryan may have been in 3rd or 4th, but when they approached the line, the race showed a card that said “5 More Laps”. Ryan ended up in 6th. After Spring Break, Ryan F. went to California with the Athletes By Design racing club to race the San Dimas Stage Race, which consisted of a time trial, a road race, and a criterium. He gained racing experience at a very high level and exposure to racers of new skill levels, and finished 16th, 8th, and 9th place in the races, respectively, for an overall 8th place for the entire stage race. Other team members Danny Beissinger, Loren Bo, Chase Wolford, “Little Ryan”, and John Villena and Lew Chiu, members of our supporting team Cyclo Smithy drove 600 miles to a rented cabin in Blairsville, Georgia, for a team training camp. The area is mountainous and offered great hill training. They often broke up into groups on a daily basis, but in the end everyone came back together and averaged the road to being faster than ever. Some statistics noted by Danny Beissinger were 350 miles of riding for the week, and a total of 8,000 feet climbing.

In the A’s, Ryan F. had the freedom to do what he likes to do. After the first flurry of attacks from the big names subsided, he gave it a shot. Instantly he had about a 15 - 20 second gap as no one was concerned about him soloing for an hour considering the powerful wind. He waited for another team to send someone up to join him, and eventually a rider from Marion caught up. Ryan and the Marion rider rode for a couple of laps and then a group of six got away from the main pack and caught them. There were three Marion riders in the new group, so the Marion team sent one up the road, meaning the other Marion riders wouldn’t work as hard in the pack line, so the lead group really didn’t make much time on the Marion race leader. The end of the race couldn’t have gone any worse. The lead group, including Ryan, came around to the lap line and got the “1 More Lap” card. When Ryan and the lead group came around to the finish, they were about to lap the rest of the field which caused confusion. Ryan sprinted for the line and took what he thought to be first or second, but someone started yelling to keep going. Most of the leaders heard this and kept going. Ryan had to chase for 1/2 a lap to get back to the leaders. Again the leaders thought this was the final lap so they sprinted again and this time Ryan may have been in 3rd or 4th, but when they approached the line, the race showed a card that said “5 More Laps”. Ryan ended up in 6th.

The final strait-away was an 800m stretch into the wind. With so many people so fresh, the pack took off on an 800m 30 man field sprint. From the chaos of accelerating and not running into someone who was slowing down, Danny got his 1st place at first, but waited to really go until 400m. At 400 he started aggressively moving forward, until there was nothing between him and the finish, and opened up completely for a full sprint. Unfortunately, Danny didn’t get his opening 20 meters from the finish, so he didn’t come close to hitting top speed, and missed taking first by a bike length. There were 3 other riders that also missed the victory, but unfortunately for him they were closer to it than he was, and he took 5th overall. On a side note, unbelieveably, no one crashed in that entire sprint.

In Ryan F’s A race, the break went early and he sat in the pack hoping it would get brought back in. Halfway through, he decided he needed to get another group off the front, and started attacking. He managed to get one group off of two Michigan guys, one other rider and him. They were about 8 miles back, Ryan was able to get by him up the road so all his job is to do is just sit in the pace line and break it over so slightly. He would pull through but slow. Ryan tried to tell the others in the breakaway that they need to do a good warm up before the race started, and the race was hard from the start. In the first three laps, 13 riders pulled away from the rest of the broken peloton. He dropped off the back and rode for a couple more laps alone before finally warming up. On the last lap he was 30 seconds ahead of him. Danny was alone, and half the course was exposed to 40 mph winds. He managed to drop the gap from 50 seconds to 20 seconds. That was as close to the lead as he got though, and he was left with a group of 6 riders that formed a chase group with seven riders. He rode the final 20 minutes with the chase group and finished 16th overall.

In the D’s, Danny lined up with 40 other riders for a race time of 60 minutes. He didn’t do a good warm up before the race started, and the race was hard from the start. In the first three laps, 13 riders pulled away from the rest of the broken peloton. He dropped off the back and rode for a couple more laps alone before finally warming up. On the last lap he was 30 seconds ahead of him. Danny was alone, and half the course was exposed to 40 mph winds. He managed to drop the gap from 50 seconds to 20 seconds. That was as close to the lead as he got though, and he waited for things to calm and attacked one more time, followed by two others. They worked together for a while and made some ground on the lead but we were not going to catch them. Ryan sprinted ahead of the other two riders to take eighth in the end.

The next day consisted of a criterium race, a race on a 1/2 mile 4-comer loop. The conditions were terrible, with both rain and wind (road this as : hail, rain, and 40-50 mph gusts, 30mph sustained winds). Not exactly the best for bike racing. “Little Ryan” came back strong from his crash the day before and lined up with a field of 50 riders for a 50 minute race. From the gun, the race was fast, and almost instantly got strong out. Ryan held on for as long as he could, but the wind proved too much for him, and eventually he was lapped and pulled from the race for safety.

In the Men’s C’s, eager to race after mechanical issues the day before, Chase lined up with 55 other riders for a 50 minute race. Again, the race started strong, and it got strung out right away. Chase was back in great positioning for the first 25 minutes, but then the leaders rapped up the pace, and he drifted off the back of the peloton. Refusing to give up, he worked with a University of Michigan rider, trading pulls into the wind, and did not get lapped, finishing 26th.

In the B’s, Danny lined up with 40 other riders for a race time of 60 minutes. He didn’t do a good warm up before the race started, and the race was hard from the start. In the first three laps, 13 riders pulled away from the rest of the broken peloton. He dropped off the back and rode for a couple more laps alone before finally warming up. On the last lap he was 30 seconds ahead of him. Danny was alone, and half the course was exposed to 40 mph winds. He managed to drop the gap from 50 seconds to 20 seconds. That was as close to the lead as he got though, and he was left with a group of 6 riders that formed a chase group with seven riders. He rode the final 20 minutes with the chase group and finished 16th overall.