Chinese Lunar New Year celebration in the IIT Chinese community

By Ben Niu

One of the most important of the traditional Chinese holidays, Chinese Lunar New Year falls on Sunday, February 14. The festival traditionally begins on the first day of the first month in the Chinese calendar and ends on the 15th. This year, 2010, is called the Year of Tiger, one of the 12-year-cycles of animals which appear in the Chinese zodiac related to the Chinese calendar.

As a large group in IIT, the Chinese community is going to celebrate this important holiday with various activities and events. All students, faculty and staff are invited to participate in the celebration through a variety of events on campus and in Chinatown.

Events are sponsored by the Office of the Provost, Dean of Students, International Affairs, International Center, Student Life, and the Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA). The following are the details about all related events.

**Friday 2/12**
Special Chinese Lunch, Commons, MTCC
Open to all IIT students and faculty. It is part of the meal plan. It costs $5.00 if you do not have a meal plan.

Sunday 2/14
Chinatown Parade
CSSA will provide volunteers to guide interested students, staff and faculty to Chinatown for the parade. Meet at the Welcome Center in the MTCC at 12 p.m. (noon).

**Saturday 2/20**
Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration Event
Sponsored by CSSA
2:30-4:30 p.m.
Meet theprovost and talk with administrators and faculty, Stuart Building, Auditorium 104 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Dinner Buffet, Center Court, MTCC $5.00 per ticket, available at the Campus Information Center as well as at the door.
Dance Party, Ballroom, MTCC Featuring traditional Chinese music and a dance instructor. Free.
You are all welcome to stop by any of the above events and experience the atmosphere of Chinese Lunar New Year and express greetings to your Chinese friends.
Questions?
CSSA can be reached at cssa-iit@live.com

The top two students from each College were given awards.

Dr. Eric Brey said that “these research experiences offer students the opportunity to be involved in cutting edge research, applying their knowledge and skills outside of the classroom.” Moreover, conducting research during their formative undergraduate years helps students decide whether to pursue a graduate degree.

Many students have been hard at work on their research projects for months, if not years, on end. Students may decide to continue their research by working full-time during the summer, benefiting from a whole host of funding sources. James Kapoldo, a third-year physics major, obtained a scholarship that allowed him to carry out his research in Germany during his summer vacation.

**RESEARCH DAY**

IIT holds first Undergraduate Research Day

By Goldey Khanna

The first ever Undergraduate Research Day took place on February 4, allowing students the opportunity to give a poster presentation detailing the research they’ve conducted. Twelve students, representing the Armour College of Engineering, College of Science and Letters, and the Institute of Psychology, were at hand to present their research. Students included not only the graduate students who volunteered to serve as judges for the event, but also interested students who were passing by the MTCC Bridge.

Dr. Eric Brey, assistant professor of biomedical engineering and associate dean of the Office of Undergraduate Research, organized this year’s research day poster competition in order to showcase the high quality of research conducted by undergraduates working alongside IIT faculty in different areas of science and technology. Dr. Brey said that “these research experiences offer students the opportunity to be involved in cutting edge research, applying their knowledge and skills outside of the classroom.” Moreover, conducting research during their formative undergraduate years helps students decide whether to pursue a graduate degree.

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The top two students from each College were given awards.

Armour College
“Thermal imaging of anisotropic thermal conduction in an elongated rubber sheet.”
2. Goldey Khanna.
“The synthesis of multilayered alginate microcapsules for the sustained-release of fibroblast growth factor-1.”

College of Science and Letters
1. James Kapoldo.
“Viewing ultrasonic nanolocalized plasmonic fields using atomic optical field microscopy.”
2. Kevin Gullickson.
“Photoneutron background studies for the measurement of the 12C(alpha,gamma)16O reaction rate.”

Institute of Psychology
1. Meagan Sarratt.
“Frequency and conviction of various mal-adaptive beliefs in people with schizophrenia: An experience sampling study.”
“Cortical thickness in the daily life of people with schizophrenia.”

If you have any questions, or would like to get involved in research, please visit the Office of Undergraduate Research website at http://www.iit.edu/research/undergraduate_research/
Of State of the Union and playing with democracy

By Abhishek Gundugurti

TECHNEWS WRITER

I am not going to start off by saying what President Barack Obama said during his State of the Union address. I am just going to “think out loud” about some of the things the speech involved.

Actually, I truly and honestly only want to talk about one important announcement. The Supreme Court of the United States of America - notably the voice of the highest democracy (the country, not the Court) - announced that corporations can fund political campaigns directly. As stated in the online version of USA Today, "Government cannot restrict corporations from spending money to influence political campaigns, political candidates, or political parties," the majority of Muslims are simply people - not a Christiaan or a Buddhist or a Hindu or a Jew. The women wear the veil by choice, and I don't wear one by choice. Forcing them to wear it is not a message to the Muslim community. Removing the veil could not even stop the practices of anyone who is connected with violent extremists, even though probably none of those women are actually connected.

Sarkozy says that the full covering veil is a sign of subservience, but why doesn't he spend his time working on wage equality or vanquishing the sly comments that are sexism rather than challenging something that may not even be a sign of subservience for the woman? Being forced to wear the veil is a problem, but this is not always or even in the majority of the cases. Women are forced at times to do things in any society. And is being banned from wearing the veil not just the same? He's not trying to support women freedom, unless he truly does believe that they are.

France's Muslims forced to not wear a veil

By Jenny Beverage

TECHNEWS WRITER

“The wearing of the full veil is a challenge to our republic. This is unacceptable. We must condemn this excess,” a report in the French government recently stated. Even French President Sarkozy says that full body veils are “not welcome” in France. The proposed ban calls (as a start) for not allowing women with their faces covered to ride in public transportation, wear it in public buildings, or allow them to seek treatment in hospitals. The French government wants to ban the veil for numerous supposed reasons, even beyond their imposed secularism that should never stretch this far.

André Gerin, chair of the parliamentary commission behind the report, said the “wearing of the full veil is the tip of the iceberg” and “there are scandalous practices behind the veil hidden behind this veil.” This is offensive, no doubt, to the Muslim community. There are radical extremists, naturally, but the majority of Muslims are simply people as we all are. They are husbands, wives, children, and workers who are religious just as a Christian or a Buddhist or a Hindu or a Jew. The women wear the veil by choice, and I don't wear one by choice. Forcing them to wear it is not a message to the Muslim community. Removing the veil could not even stop the practices of anyone who is connected with violent extremists, even though probably none of those women are actually connected.

Sarkozy says that the full covering veil is a sign of subservience, but why doesn’t he spend his time working on wage equality or vanquishing the sly comments that are sexism rather than challenging something that may not even be a sign of subservience for the woman? Being forced to wear the veil is a problem, but this is not always or even in the majority of the cases. Women are forced at times to do things in any society. And is being banned from wearing the veil not just the same? He’s not trying to support women freedom, unless he truly does believe that they are.

Alphabet Soup: come out and play

By Lisa Krawicki

TECHNEWS WRITER

Most of the games are played on the north side, location varying by activity. For my introduction to CMSA, I played outfielder for the Lady Kilias in the recreational softball league. What a great experience! I met about 15 awesome women and learned a lot about the community. That summer I experienced the lifestyle like I never had before.Coming from a fairly conservative town, prior to college I didn’t even realize that a couple could consist of anything but a man and a woman. Sure, there was television to tell me that gays were real, but there’s nothing like real life to drive that point home. On top of all of the friends, I had a reason to get off campus. The games were played at Lincoln Park, which is super accessible on a bike. Riding along the lakefront to get to the park provided some great exercise. Some quick facts about the women’s softball league from the CMSA website: (CMSA) - The league includes the largest not-for-profit gay and lesbian sports organization in the Midwest and is open to all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity—that means you too, My introduction to CMSA, I played outfielder for the Lady Kilias in the recreational softball league. What a great experience! I met about 15 awesome women and learned a lot about the community. That summer I experienced the lifestyle like I never had before. Coming from a fairly conservative town, prior to college I didn’t even realize that a couple could consist of anything but a man and a woman. Sure, there was television to tell me that gays were real, but there’s nothing like real life to drive that point home. On top of all of the friends, I had a reason to get off campus. The games were played at Lincoln Park, which is super accessible on a bike. Riding along the lakefront to get to the park provided some great exercise. Some quick facts about the women’s softball league from the CMSA website:

- The league includes the largest not-for-profit gay and lesbian sports organization in the Midwest and is open to all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity — that means you too,
Gay marriage & natural law
By Matthew Marks

It has recently been implied that people who oppose gay marriage do so out of hate. While I cannot speak for everyone, I can tell you that Catholics do not. We believe that all humans were created in the image of God; therefore, each person possesses human dignity. This human dignity should be respected above anything else in this world, and it is found in “everyone.”

The reason we do not support homosexual marriages lies in what marriage means to us. Marriage is not just about the two spouses; it is about family—about a husband and wife taking part in creation by bringing children into the world. This is why men and women were created the way they were. This heterosexual, family-based model of marriage stems from natural laws.

Now, might be wondering, what is natural law? Well, natural law—not to be confused with the laws of nature—is the law that is evident from the world around us. This law is higher than the laws that governments pass, and it should be looked upon as an ideal. Our own Declaration of Independence and all 50 state constitutions cite natural law as the source of our rights.

Even when a husband and wife cannot conceive, and they choose to adopt children instead, they are still following the model set forth by nature: father, mother, and children. This family unit is the foundation of society.

The reason Catholics find it important to defend this position in the political arena is that we believe every action taken by members of society affects everyone. We are not isolated individuals; we are social creatures belonging to one human family. Therefore the upholding or breaking of natural law by individuals has a profound impact on all of society.

So, for Catholics, when it comes to the gay marriage debate, hate does not enter into the equation. It’s not about being offended by something, or thinking that the gay marriage debate, hate does not impact on all of society.

members of society affects everyone. We are not isolated individuals; we are social creatures belonging to one human family. Therefore the upholding or breaking of natural law by individuals has a profound impact on all of society.

The group awoke (again groggy), but met up at the St. Michael’s fountain in the Latin Quarter to take the RER to Versailles. The train ride was quick and brought us to the amazing Palace of Versailles, about the size of the Louvre, but a disgusting display of wealth. King Louis XIV knew how to live, but the poor peasants of the time must have hated him. The palace was great, but next time I must spend a day enjoying the gardens, renting a bike for the hundreds of trails, and maybe even rent a boat on the canal. (Food was expensive, so bring your own.) We headed back. Jake and I need to sleep to leave for Dublin at 5AM.

However, instead of sleeping, I walked over to Emily and Naomi’s place. Emily and I talked for a couple of hours, and then lay on the bed with a bottle of wine and watched a few episodes of “Friends,” including a classic one with Joey learning French. I can’t help feeling close to her, and if nothing else, I have found a great friend to be with. I took Emily and Naomi back to our apartment for pizza. It was extremely cheap, but so good.

We cracked open a few bottles of wine and beer, and a few other IIT grad students showed up. What was a short dinner turned into a great, relaxing evening with friends. As we sipped wine, my arms around the girls, Emily’s hand slipped into mine, and as simple as this sign of affection may be, the foggy air of Paris made it so much more, leaving me puzzled. Sad to end the night, Jake and I kicked everyone out and slept for a few hours in preparation for the voyage ahead—Dublin!

Day 8 June 8th, 2007 Paris/Dublin

At 5AM we left for Paris-Beauvais. It was the base for Ryanair, and while flights are cheap, they fly to. To take a cab to the bus station and take the express bus out. The flight to Dublin was obscured by clouds, and when we landed, we feared cloudy weather. However, as we approached Dublin, it became clear that a beautiful day was ahead—happened. We found a great hostel called Marlborough Hostel at €25 per person per night (€5 reservation) in the center of Dublin, and a more expensive hotel, Gresham Hotel on O’Connell seemed great.

We left our bags and headed to a great little pub—had a sandwich, a glass of Guinness, and hopped on a Dublin Tours sightseeing double-decker bus. It was a 120-minute tour and we saw all the sights: great 1000-year-old churches, the Guinness factory, and the Phoenix Park. Later we went to a pub on O’Connell Street for shepherd’s pie and more Guinness (don’t order an Irish car bomb—they don’t know what they are, and were expensive).

Three notes for the future.

1. Beer is way more expensive in Ireland because of taxes (5 €/Budweiser cans for €9).
2. Guinness is everywhere and is the city’s official drink, but don’t buy merchandise unless in the duty free airport shops.
3. Go visit the club and late pub Tramell Park section.

Dublin is a beautiful 1.8 million city. We walked along the river at sunset - a beautiful walk, with the view of the river bridges light up in green. After a great day, we headed back to our wonderful beds at the Marlborough Hostel.

Day 9 June 9th, 2007 Dublin/London

We awoke in the morning and headed out to O’Connell Street to hop on a half- day Dublin Bay and Castle tour. It was fairly inexpensive, picking us up around 10AM and ending around 2PM. First we drove out to the bay. It was very beautiful, but the fog limited the long distance view.

We next toured the castle, built around 1000 years ago! It looked like a stone castle but the fog made it incredibly small, albeit beautiful. It was a great tour, but next time, I’d really like to see the countryside and western Ireland. We headed back to Dublin, grabbed our luggage, and took the bus ride (16A) back to Dublin for our excursion to London. The journey continues in next week’s issue.
A word with Karen Nelson in her final month as SGA VP

By Raymond Ballard
Techniques writer

As vice president of Academic Affairs for the IIT Student Government Association (SGA) for the 2009-2010 school year, Karen Nelson contributed to the evolution of her Senate team, focused on major academic issues important to students, and went above the expectations of the student body.

With her leadership in the last year, the Academic Affairs Committee of SGA has worked diligently on several huge topics of student interest. They are drafting a major proposal with the Galvin Library and OTS staff to possibly elevate our Galvin Library to a 24-hour academic hub with all Night Owl computer programs available around the clock. This process required great attention to detail, patience, cooperation with several affected areas, and coordination of differing ideas.

Her committee members also worked to draft the new IPRO 2.0 model, bring a coffee machine to Crown, and seek the publication of professor evaluations.

More recently, the committee is turning to address the high-interest languages issue. By really digging the complicated issues involved in bringing language classes to IIT, and with supportive suggestions from the provost, Karen’s team is drafting another important proposal for the students of IIT.

Last Friday, I met Karen (who is graduating in May this year) at Starbuck’s to discuss her tenure as vice president of Academic Affairs. Here is what I found.

Ray: How would you describe your group?
Karen: I really like our group this year. Everyone that is there is really it. We’re a smaller group, but everyone is making a huge impact on the group.
Ray: What are your biggest issues in Academic Affairs?
Karen: Well, definitely last semester our focus was on the Galvin Library proposal. Patience in working as a collective really gave us a huge confidence boost. We’re definitely looking forward to finishing the proposal process, even if several of us (including myself) aren’t here to see it develop.

This semester though, I think we’re going to be putting a lot of our energy on seminars and into our curriculum. We’re focusing on languages, particularly for undergraduates, and coming up with solutions to make this feasible has been difficult. Basically, we had to deal with the real problem with languages at IIT. When languages like Arabic or Chinese I am offered, they’re rarely taken because they don’t often help students meet their general education requirements, and thus, they have no time to make them. The lack of depth in each subject was difficult too. However, I think our committee has really come up with some great recommendations and we’ll be working with many influential faculty and administrators to hammer out the details in fixing these problems.

IPRO 2.0 has been huge too, and I think the unveiling of that to students will reel in the tone for an improved curriculum next year at IIT. It is kind of lame that I won’t be here to see all these great changes come through however, but I think my students beyond me will really appreciate it.

Ray: What do you recommend to those new students? If you did it all over again, what advice would you give?
Karen: Get involved in something. The gym, student organizations, anything. Just doing school isn’t satisfying. Try joining a professional society and work on projects that relate to your major outside the classroom. As a civil engineer student, I think the real work of students in groups like Engineers Without Borders (EWB) or the Steel Bridge project projects really contributed to their learning at school.

IPRO’s can help a lot, but choose one that is related to your major to boost your resume, and make sure it’s with people that are enthusiastic. Finally, work hard for what you’re capable of. I think I knew I was capable of doing well in some areas, and doing less (while ok) just wasn’t acceptable. I can look back on my time at IIT and know I accomplished the things I set out to do.

Ray: Have you accomplished all your goals? What do you still hope to do?
Karen: Well in my time here, I wish we’d been able to start researching the feasibility of switching IIT email over to Google (Gmail). Most students use Gmail and so changes in IIT accounts for the most part, plus we’ve heard that Gmail might actually save the university money. We definitely don’t know enough yet about the possibility, but it’s definitely intriguing and I wish we could look into it.

Ray: What have you learned as VP about yourself?
Karen: Wow, that’s a tough question. I’ve learned that the important thing in leadership is motivating a group. Getting them to where they are now look a lot of long-term work in development. Changes in group dynamic are not immediate, and I needed to tap into my enthusiasm to lead by example. Providing reasonable expectations has been huge, too. If we told the committee that the Galvin Library proposal could be pulled off in a month, or even a semester, I might’ve lost half my committee in December. And if you set small tasks that can be accomplished throughout a big project, members constantly feel rewarded for their efforts. It’s definitely been a learning process. And I had to learn many of these things by experience. You don’t just find this stuff in a book.

Ray: What have you enjoyed most while at IIT?
Karen: Ha, ha, while I think it’s not the most typical experience, I think performing in “Little Shop of Horrors” was a great experience. I was introduced to a whole different group of friends, and I think that what I’ve learned at IIT is all about you. You have to make the effort to get involved in it, and the reward of making new friends is so worth it.

I would definitely say Kappa has been a big part of my experience, but they’re more like family than an IIT experience.

Also, I remember the good old days pulling pranks on our friends in MSV. We had so much free time freshman year, and we definitely abused it with too many good times.

Ray: What are your plans after graduating in May?
Karen: I’m a bit torn. I’ve interviewed for a great internship, and I’d love to gain some experience, especially this summer. However, if I get accepted to the master’s programs I’ve applied to at MIT or UI, I have to accept, I can’t pass that up. With the economy the way it is, I’d like to really hammer out my master’s degree and then pursue my career in structural engineering. I’ve been a great experience at IIT, and I’m definitely sad to leave, but I’m feeling pretty good about everything I’ve been able to do here and I hope the next phase in life is just as rewarding.

Karen is graduating in May 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. Her term as SGA vice president of Academic Affairs ends on April 6 when a newly elected executive board is inaugurated.

Alternative Spring Break benefit concert with Canasta

By Becca Waterloo
Techniques writer

It was a successful night in the Bog on Thursday night for the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) Benefit concert, starring Canasta. Our ASB students put on a concert in the Bog at 9 p.m. to raise money for their trip to Warner Robins, Georgia to build houses for Habitat for Humanity.

The Chicago-native band’s popularity is impressive because they’ve played for Barack Obama; opened for Wilco, and have been compared with big names such as Arcade Fire, Belle & Sebastian, The Decemberists, The New Pornographers, Sufjan Stevens and Wilco. The atmosphere they created Thursday in the Bog was described to me as “ambient” and “chill.” Canasta wasn’t completely set on getting the audience involved in their music, which was a perfect setting for this benefit.

Opening for them were two solo artists. One of them was the vocalist for Canasta, Ian Wilson. Matt Kerstein was also called up by the band to come perform out of pure support for ASB.

Throughout the night I noticed their musical talent. I tried to compare them to big bands I know of; however, it was difficult to do so with such originality and intense multi-instrumental acts. Every time I looked up, I saw the female front (two man, Elizabeth Lindau, playing a different instrument. By the end of the night, I witnessed a tambourine, violin, and trombone consistently traded with the other. It was really an honor to have such support from all three artists throughout the night.

“Music is really my only outlet,” Matt Kerstein said about his band’s performances to benefit domestic abuse, rape advocacy, urban education, sustainable architecture, independent radio, AIDS and arts organizations,” according to their MySpace website.

For those who were 21 and above, it was encouraged to “tip generously” at the bar. All tips were being matched by So- desco, and then donated to the ASB fund.

In one corner of the seating area, ASB students were selling tickets to a raffle of prizes like packets of Subway gift cards for free 6-inch subs, an autographed picture of White Sox’s Paul Konerko, and four box seat tickets for a White Sox game. The tickets averaged four dollars each. They added some creativity to selling them by giving the buyer the option to roll a dice. The number rolled was equal to the number of dollars they had to pay for the ticket. Another simple technique for raising money had ASB students walking around with tin cans asking for any kind of donation. Then they could get students from the bar and rec area.

When the lights switched on and the band had to call it quits, I was really surprised how fast time had flown. As I mentioned, the atmosphere was perfect and definitely motivates me to hang out in the Bog again as well as attend more ASB fundraisers (which you should, too).

ASB students leave for Georgia on March 7, but before they can even pack the Bog again as well as attend more ASB fundraisers (which you should, too). If you are interested in donating to the IIT ASB Fund, ask a member of the ASB team, or email asb.iit@iit.edu to get more information.

If you missed the concert and are interested in hearing a preview of Canasta, their MySpace can be heard at http://www.myspace.com/canasta. Matt Kerstein from the band Brighton, MA can be heard at http://www.brightonma.net.
Guest speakers hosted by Students for Justice in Palestine

By Karl Rybaltowski
A & E EDITOR

On Thursday, January 28, the organization Students for Justice in Palestine hosted an event in the Winshick Hall auditorium entitled “One Year Later: Beseiged Gaza Still Under Siege.” Commemorating the events of what is commonly known as the Gaza War (or Operation Cast Lead by the Israeli Defense Forces, or IDF), the organization hosted a number of guest speakers to take a look at the current situation in the Gaza Strip, the action (or lack thereof) taken by Israel and the international community in the wake of the conflict, and media coverage of not only the Gaza War, but the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from the outset.

The event began with USC student Sanah Yassin, a participant in the humanitarian convoys sent to Gaza after the conflict. These were put together by a humanitarian aid organization named Viva Palestina, specifically created for this purpose just after the Gaza War. Sanah spoke of the current humanitarian crisis in Gaza, the Israeli government’s lack of action in remedies it, and her experiences in these aid convoys, recalling the outpouring of support they received in each nation they passed through, as well as some of the hardships in dealing with Israeli security forces. She stressed the human cost of the conflict and the need to put pressure on the Israeli government in aid and reconstruction.

Following this talk was Alison Weitz, founder of If Americans Knew, a non-profit organization named specifically created for this purpose just after the Gaza War – and the conflict in general – on the development and dignity of the people of Gaza. Following his talk was a short Q&A session, wherein issues such as the reception and reporting on the Goldstone Report (a UN report condemning actions by the Israeli military that led to over 1,000 Palestinian deaths, an overwhelming majority of them non-combatants) were discussed.

Engagement on social and political issues is not something often seen from student groups, though in recent years it has become increasingly prevalent. If the trend continues, IIT may become a serious place for discussion on current events.

IIT Idol: not over yet

By Christina Noonan
TECHNEWS WRITER

Last Friday, huge crowds formed in the BOG to witness IIT Idol auditions. Unknown superstars from around campus came together and performed. A wide range of skills were brought to the table from singing to playing guitar and even playing the flute. Out of nearly 20 contestants, 10 were chosen to continue to the next rounds for the final showdown next week.

Hamza Obaid, the planner of this event and the previous evening’s Alternative Spring Break (ASB) benefit concert, worked it out so that Dining Services matched all tips to the bar for ASB’s trip at both events. He mentioned that he was really excited about the turnout. “It could have been better with a little more planning, and in the future, it might be a good idea to let a few more people sign up for the prelims. However, I was really surprised by how good most of the contestants were this year, especially considering some of those who participated last year.” He should know too, since he tallied the scores for the judges. Apparently there were some interesting singers last year, which added a little more spice to the competition. This year, everyone got down to business.

The contestants who made it through to the final rounds included: Sasha Brennecki, Joe Carbon, Elizabeth Corson, Tom Bergland, Emily Knobbe, Issan Lakhvia, Mikaela Graziano’s performance, he checked emails and texts while rapping.

Additionally, Max Graziano and Lory Apampa and Brian Kibbe. These contestants also won $15.00 iTunes cards.

IIT Idol finals are at the BOG, Friday, February 12 from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. This weekend is also the BOG’s 3rd anniversary and Camras Weekend. There will be popcorn and Nice Peter. Obaid mentioned that he has been pretty excited with the general turnout for events this year, and can’t wait to see who will show up next weekend. In previous years, there were about 50 to 60 people who would provide a constant turnout for an event. This year’s turnout has been around 150 people.

If you missed IIT Idol and you want to get involved, look out for flyers for IIT’s Got Talent happening next month.

Hindu Worship Resolution

Recognizing the diverse religious traditions of campus residents, the SGA Student Senate approved a resolution last week to establish a location for Hindu worship on campus. The Office of Spiritual Life will be heavily involved in both the initiation and promotion of the project, and will work with the class of 2012 to establish a specific location on the University’s campus.

The student group is planning to incorporate many different religious rituals into the service, including prayer, meditation, and chanting.

The resolution also encourages the University to provide funding for the project, and the student group is currently seeking donations from the campus community.

IIT’s Delta Tau Delta Fraternity wins Court of Honor Award

By Adam Kadaban
CAMpus EDITor

Last weekend, IIT’s Deltas were recognized as one of the top 20 (of 127) Delta Tau Delta chapters across the nation. They received the Court of Honor Award at the annual Northern Division Leadership Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. Established in 1965 to recognize overall excellence, chapters are graded on six grounds: chapter finance, recruitment, membership education, academics, alumni relations, and community service.

Delt President Brad Strandquist had this to say about winning: “We’ve always kind of thought that we were doing good things as an organization, but we’ve never really cared about the recognition or the fancy awards. It does, however, feel good to be validated by our national fraternity as the top 20 out of 127 chapters.”

Yellow student subdivision often ask me if I’m a Del,” adds Purvag Patel. “It gives me great pride in knowing that people recognize us not by letters, but through our positive role on campus. The Court of Honor is a similar mark of pride.” In the 45 years that the award has been given out, IIT’s chapter of Deltas (Gamma Beta) has won this award an astonishing 15 times. Congratulations to the Dels!
IIT gets RecycleMania

By Laurie Feldman

If you haven’t heard yet, IIT is competing in RecycleMania. RecycleMania is a national competition, used as a benchmarking tool, for colleges and universities; thus enabling the competing schools to get their students excited about recycling. The first competition took place in 2001, when Ohio University competed with Miami University. Miami U won that year and the competition has just grown larger ever since. IIT recycled! Start believing it. I’ve heard many an IIT student complain to me that the school doesn’t do enough to recycle, or that the programs put in place don’t actually work. Well, this semester, that will be proven wrong.

On Sunday, January 17, IIT began its first try at the RecycleMania Competition. The competition takes place over the next 10 weeks, where our recycling provider gives us a report on the amount of recycling we’ve accumulated each week. After the first week of competition, IIT ranked 45th out of 179 schools.


So, students of IIT, get excited about RecycleMania! Use the recycling bins around campus, encourage your friends to recycle, and let’s rustle up some of that good Scarlet Hawk school spirit, and show the country how serious students at IIT are about recycling…GAME ON!

Competition goes from now until March 27th. So ask yourself, have you recycled today? Help IIT move up in the RecycleMania ranks!

Up close and personal with I-Go Car Sharing

By Brian Kibble

Over the summer I interned at the Museum of Science and Industry, and after my first one month CTA pass expired, I started looking into alternative modes of transportation. One of my fellow interns and I stumbled upon I-Go Car Sharing. This week I found out that masters student in the Stuart School of Business, John Brophy, is an employee of the company. We sat down for a chat and he helped me learn more about the great program.

After graduating from Boston College in political science, John then went into political organizing. That’s where his interest in environmental issues really sparked. Lured to the Environment Management and Sustainability masters program at DePaul, John became involved in all sorts of political organizing. That’s where his interest in political science, John then went into environmental issues.

I-Go, and a year and a half later he was finally in the alliance. I-Go is not alone in this business. Zipcar is a for-profit company that has car sharing in several major cities under pretty much the same concept. To help keep their offerings competitive I-Go has built relationships with not-for-profit car sharing initiatives in major cities like Philadelphia, Boston, and San Francisco so that if you are a member of any of those you can use any other car sharing in the alliance.

It has been said that most cars sit still for about 95% of their life; I-Go seeks to consolidate these utilitarian rocks to better serve everyone. It’s also estimated based on fuel efficiency and testimonials that for about 95% of their life; I-Go seeks to consolidate these utilitarian rocks to better serve everyone. It’s also estimated based on fuel efficiency and testimonials that for 95% of their life; I-Go seeks to consolidate these utilitarian rocks to better serve everyone. It’s also estimated based on fuel efficiency and testimonials that for about 95% of their life; I-Go seeks to consolidate these utilitarian rocks to better serve everyone.

RecycleMania! Use the recycling bins around campus, encourage your friends to recycle, and let’s rustle up some of that good Scarlet Hawk school spirit, and show the country how serious students at IIT are about recycling…GAME ON!

Competition goes from now until March 27th. So ask yourself, have you recycled today? Help IIT move up in the RecycleMania ranks!
Monday 2/15

President’s Day!
Celebrate George Washington’s birthday!

Sunday 2/14

Worship and Praise in the Chapel
IIT Bible Club
10:00 Carr Chapel
Join the IIT Bible Club for Worship and Praise every Sunday.

Friday 2/12

Perfect Power Phase One Celebration
Armour College - Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
10:00 Siegel Hall Lobby
Celebrate the completion of the first phase of Perfect Power at IIT.

A global view of productivity growth in India and China
Stuart School of Business
10:00 565 W. Adams, DTC 470
Part of the Friday Research Presentation Series. Presented by Booth School of Business faculty member, Dr. Ralph Ossa.

Chinese New Year Lunch
IIT Dining Services
11:15-1:45 Commons Cafeteria
Special Door Price: $$. Also, Megan 3. CampbellUMS, RD, LDN, Sodexo District Dietitian will be here to answer your questions.

IIT Idol and Karaoke Friday
Student Union Board, CCC,
BOG Events Fund
8:00pm-1:00am The BOG
Cheer your friends as they compete for the top prizes and bragging rights at IIT Idol! Email ub-BOGvip@gmail.com to sign up. Visit the Union Board website for a list of available songs.
Starting at 10, enjoy in the food and drink specials, and show off your stuff. 25 cent chicken wings and other specials every karaoke Friday!

COA Student Council meeting
By Christina Noonan
TECHNEWS WRITER

Unknown to a lot of students on campus, the architecture community is getting involved in helping make IIT better. On Friday, approximately 38 students came together to discuss problems, thoughts, concerns, and praise about our college with the higher-ups running the college, who can directly make the needed changes. Many believed this was a step in the right direction to facilitating better relationships between students and the administrators.

Topics varied, but included important issues like security in Crown and M&M, the anticipated wood shop move to M&M (which would allow third-year students back into the lower levels of Crown Hall), and quality of life issues like having more/healthier food options at night. Currently, most students are stuck with vending machine foods and 7-11. Even if they are pulling all-nighters. When students are tired, busy working, and get hungry, their options are often cut down to whatever is in a vending machine (e.g., a 75 cent Twinkie).

Rachel Yanover, student and meeting attendee, mentioned how surprised she was about how serious the college is taking the Student Speak survey results, as well as the fact that the administration is facilitating this group, which really shows their interest in us. She shared, “It’s interesting, I think, to hear about new ideas, like late night dining options, for students. I would have never thought about that. I guess I just got so used to the way things were, I never expected there could be better options for us.” Newer students can really voice their opinions of what’s going wrong and right at the college and aren’t afraid or tired of bringing it up like some upperclassmen have become. The fact that the college administrators are interested in what students have to say means a lot, and will hopefully facilitate even better relationships between students and staff on campus.

If you, your organization, or your department is interested in coming to the next meeting, it will be held on February 19, from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM. In addition, there are two more meetings this semester on March 19 and April 23.

Student Government retreat: the non-business part

By Linda Goldstein
CONTENT MANAGER

This article is intended to be an extension of the article written by Chris Roberts about the morning and early afternoon accomplishments of the SGA retreat in Tech Park.

The fun part of the SGA retreat last Saturday was when, after finishing up the proposal-writing, schedule-writing, powerpoint part of the day, the Senate took a short walk from Tech Park over to the Green Line and boarded a train to downtown and the Daley Plaza skating rink. SGA paid for skates for those senators who hadn’t been able to pick up free skate rentals from the IIT Campus Information Center (CIC), and skating was free.

The rink was large and a little bit wet at the edges, since it was a relatively warm evening. Senators had a grand time, as some cautiously hung on to the edge of the outdoor rink, and others whirled energetically around the ice. Some senators without previous ice skating experience opted to be escorted around the ice with a more experienced IIT skater on each arm to hold them up. A bit after 5pm, the senators exited the ice, removed their skates, and began the walk towards Flat Top Grill. The gimmick at Flat Top is that when you sit down, you get a small wooden stick and a pencil, you write your name on the stick and then go over to the buffet, where you grab a bowl and pile it high with rice, noodles, veggies, and other assorted edibles.

You put your stick into the bowl (along with other small plastic drink-stirrers that you can add - each color means something different in order to add different things, like a wrap or fried bread) so that after cooking it, they know whom to return it to. SGA paid for dinner, although not for drinks, which some senators bought on their own separate tabs.

The whole afternoon was a bonding experience to move the interpersonal relationships in the Senate past the point of awkwardness and into the kind of relationship that is more streamlined, humorous, and pleasant. Senators don’t get compensated for their service, so it’s good to keep a hold on them by weaving them into the interpersonal network of the IIT governmental community. Eating with someone is a bonding activity, and ice skating is a great icebreaker. Hopefully this semester’s Senate will continue accomplishing great things, like the language program creation proposal, Galvin Library hour extension proposal, and other student-powered improvements to IIT.
The perfect storm of holiday revelry

By Antoinette Smith
CAMPUS EDITOR

The Chinese New Year is this Sunday. Valentine’s Day, in all its Hallmark holiday glory, is also this Sunday. Black History Month started a couple of weeks ago and continues through February.

I know what you’re thinking: How do I fit all of these holidays into my rigid schedule of coursework and studying?! You’re in luck, because I’ve come up with a foolproof plan that involves all three holidays. Some of these events will require you to leave the Main Campus. So, get your U-PASS out. You will also want to bring along a tiny sum of cash. You might get hungry at some point. Passing out on the perfect storm of holidays is not the move. Trust me. Some advance preparation will be required.

Today
(This is how you’ll prepare for the Black History Month portion of the weekend.)

Plan A: Rent/Netflix/borrow Love Jones starring Lorenz Tate and Nia Jones. This is a love story with a predominantly African-American cast. It’s probably one of my all time favorite movies about love and relationships. Bonus: It takes place right here in Chicago! Caution: This is a very sexy movie. If you are offended by the sexy or brief nudity, this is not the movie for you. Skip to Plan B.

Plan B: Rent/Netflix/borrow Hav Plenty starring some people you’ve never heard of. But, you’ve likely heard of Chili from TLC. Well, she’s in it, too. Again, an African-American cast in a movie about love and one of my favorites. This one is more of a comedy and is suitable for most ages. It is rated R for language. But, I guarantee no nudity and no “the sexy.”

Yes, these movies were made over a decade ago, but they’re quality pictures.

Check them out!

Sunday
This is it!
1:00 p.m.
Head to Chinatown for their annual Chinese New Year parade. Enjoy marching bands, floats, lion teams and a 100-foot Mystical Dragon. The parade takes place on Wentworth between 24th Street and Cermak Road. Hungry? Head to one of Citysearch’s Best of 2009 dim sum restaurant picks: Phoenix (2131 S. Archer Ave.) or Happy Chef Dim Sum House (2164 S. Archer Ave.).

Chinatown is the first stop heading north (toward the Loop) on the Red line.

3:00 p.m.
If you have a special someone, this might be the time to head back to Main Campus and get started on your Valentine’s Day plans. Please skip directly to 7:30 p.m. for further instructions.

The rest of you are now ready to continue the Chinese New Year celebration at Navy Pier. The celebration at Navy Pier actually begins at 12:00 p.m. and ends at 5:30 p.m. It takes place in the Crystal Room. It is also completely free! You’ll likely arrive in time to see Chinese instrument demonstrations and vocalists; the Little Star Dance Troupe from Jin Qiu Yue Dance Studio; a fashion show by Chinese Fine Art Society board members, Sunrise Chorus, and volunteers; and the Lion Dance Troupe will perform a dance and a martial arts demonstration.

To get there take the 29 State Street bus north. The final stop is Navy Pier.

7:30 p.m.
Wind down your evening with some cinema. Now is the perfect time to “Love Jones” or “Hav Plenty.” Hope you (and yours, if applicable) enjoy it!

DVD Review: Let The Right One In

By Karl Rybaltowski
A&E EDITOR

In the wake of (or perhaps even the echoes of) the seeming American obsession with Twilight, the concept of a vampire horror romance movie might not seem particularly original or appetizing. In fact, Let The Right One In was released shortly before the first of the Twilight films, though the timing was still not ideal. It’s extremely unfortunate, because this Swedish film is a beautifully-filmed, well-cast marvel of genre-bending, heart-stirring cinema.

The film, adapted from a book written by John Ajvide Lindqvist, follows a 12-year-old boy named Oskar (played by Kåre Hedebrant) who is an outsider at his school. He doesn’t have any friends and is mercilessly picked on by bullies on a regular basis. One day, mysterious neighbors move in - a young, almost otherworldly girl named Eli (Lina Leandersson) and her taciturn father Oskar only ever encounters Eli at night in the underwhelming park behind their apartment complex, and their first few encounters are painfully awkward. As they continue to interact, he begins to realize there is something strange about her (though the actual word “vampire” is only ever brought up once throughout the whole movie), but at the same time, a vaguely romantic relationship begins to develop, and Eli helps Oskar get over his fear of the bullies to act out against them - but the consequences of this lead to a more dramatic confrontation later on.

All this is set against the backdrop of a series of disappearances and murders discovered around the town they live in, coinciding with the arrival of Eli and her father. But the focus of the movie isn’t necessarily a gore-fest or kitschy vampire worship, but rather an unassuming drama about the issues and insecurities of children entering adolescence. At the same time, the film draws on vampire lore and puts a new twist on it - a profound guilt and moral dilemma for those who are forced to live off the blood of others. It’s hard to definitively call this a “vampire” film, though - Eli’s affliction is a vehicle for deeper considerations of a budding adolescent’s psyche, and her character is a good foil for the normally quiet Oskar’s sinnering hatred for his bully oppressors that we’ve introduced to through violent fantasy - him stabbing a tree with a knife while yelling “Squirrel like a pig!” It’s this use of the concept of violence, but little actual physical violence on screen, that makes those graphic bits (few though they are) especially harrowing to watch.

The two lead actors, Hedebrant and Leandersson, are a thrill to watch in their roles. Oskar’s insecurities come out subtly, and the portrayal of Eli, with multiple, often conflicting emotions conveyed at once, is a sight to behold. Both get across their conflicting emotions conveyed at once, and the portrayal of Eli, with multiple, often conflicting emotions conveyed at once, is a sight to behold. Both get across their
The power of Wikis

By Divyansh Saini
TECHNEWS WRITER

According to Wiki.org, Ward Cunningham adopted "Wiki," a Hawaiian word for "quick," in 1995 when developing WikiWikiWeb, a collaboration platform for programmers to share information, for the Portland Pattern Repository. Cunningham now owns c2.com, home of Cunningham and Cunningham, a programming consulting agency. Since then, the name "wiki" has remained as a general way of referring to a platform that allows a group of people to enter and communally edit bits of text. A wiki is simply a page with text submitted by a user. As a second user visits the page, they then can click an "edit" button and change the information, add their own, or completely rewrite the page itself. One of the key characteristics that haunts users of wikis, as well as delegitimizes Wikipedia.com (the largest wiki in existence) as a reliable source of information, is that it can be edited by anyone at any time and with complete anonymity. Some wikis have mechanisms in place where they assign administrator roles to some users, who must approve the changes. Of course, this significantly slows down the process of information sharing and knowledge transfer, which might be forced to be less of a priority than ensuring the complete integrity of the information. In principle, a user can enter the wiki and upload inappropriate, useless, or erroneous information in an attempt to pass it off as fact. While this is a valid concern in the public domain, this risk is significantly reduced within organizations. Though there may not be specific tools or systems in place preventing someone in an organization from uploading bad data, the simple understanding that he or she can be tracked (through usernames, etc.) and suffer consequences if he or she does not follow company rules is enough.

Wiki's roots in the programming industry provide a perfect example of how organizations use wikis to improve productivity. Programmers work with code that needs to be written, tested, and maintained; they also do not necessarily reside in the same location. Emailing code back and forth can be very time consuming, inconvenient and a bottleneck in the development process. Wikis allow a fellow programmer to edit the original code, indicating what he had changed, which is instantly reflected and communicated back to the original poster. On a large scale, the time (potentially days or weeks) that a process of multi-user collaboration and information sharing takes is vastly reduced, since everyone has the same, and most current, information at the same time and can access it 24/7. Also, this system helps in maximizing the available information, since if the original poster did not consider a specific area or point, then there is a greater chance that another contributor will add it in at some point in the cycle. This same streamlined process can also be seen in areas such as document development and even more informally, event planning or weekly lunch menu formulation.

One of the potential disadvantages of wikis, though, is that two or more people can be editing one piece of information at the same time. If some standards and/or prevention mechanisms are in place to prevent this from happening, then the information would be as accurate as possible when needed.

3D TV: New dimension for small screen entertainment

By Pramod Adithya Muntimadugu
TECHNEWS WRITER

Not all inventions were made to make things simple. A few were just for the pleasure of people. One such great invention was television. People felt it was great when they saw moving pictures in black and white. Later they were amazed to see the pictures in color on a small screen, and then came 3D movies - the realistic presentation of a motion picture. What if someone misses a movie like Avatar with superb 3D visual effects? Would they let's get ready for the ultimate 3D experience soon that might not be true. Philips is about to bring technologies that would allow people to have the 3D experience without wearing glasses. Do we need them for these new TVs too, the initial version of the 3D TVs will need the viewer to wear the glasses, but soon that might not be true. Philips is about to bring technologies that would allow people to have the 3D experience without wearing glasses.

3D TV lovers. New 24-hour 3D channels are being launched pretty soon. ESPN is going to launch a 3D sports channel that would telecast nearly 85 events in 3D every year. Sky 3D is a 24-hour 3D channel launched in South Korea on January 1, 2010. 3D movies are associated with funny glasses. So what kinds of small screen entertainment can we expect to see on these cool TVs? Almost all of our favorite shows, movies, sports, news, animations, etc. will be an awesome experience for all TV lovers. New 24-hour 3D channels are being launched pretty soon. ESPN is going to launch a 3D sports channel that would telecast nearly 85 events in 3D every year. Sky 3D is a 24-hour 3D channel launched in South Korea on January 1, 2010. 3D movies are associated with funny glasses. Do we need them for these new TVs too? The initial version of the 3D TVs will need the viewer to wear the glasses, but soon that might not be true. Philips is about to bring technologies that would allow people to have the 3D experience without wearing glasses. Along with the 3D display, the company is developing a display processing chip - the IC3D, which can calculate in real time what the left and right eye should see and allow any type of 3D content to be displayed on the 3D display. Isn't that cool! So let's get ready for the ultimate 3D experience on small screens in the near future.
The word Sudoku, above, is actually the abbreviation of Suuji wa dokushin ni kagiru, meaning “the digits must be single” or “the digits are limited to one occurrence.”


**Across**
1. Shock absorber
4. Pucker
5. Some stay at home
8. Anger
12. Unbending
13. Frenziedly
15. Ballet info
16. Computer info
17. Subcompact
18. Bay tree
20. Delivery vehicle
22. Swabbies
23. Banner
27. Bygone leaders
29. Jimmy
30. Big one
31. Fine-tune
32. Purchase
33. Swarm member
34. Symbol of industriousness
35. Prospector’s need
36. Opportunities, so to speak
37. Shortened (mainsail)
39. Does and bucks
40. Sleazy paper
41. Crackers
44. Valley
47. God of love
49. Stir
50. Squad
51. Boorish
52. Wear and tear
53. Chances
54. Sootshayer
55. Bro’s sibling

**Down**
1. Tablet
2. “Tosca” tune
3. Society entrant
4. Equestrians
5. Russian range
6. Bunk
7. Trickery
8. Curses
9. “What Kind of Fool ___?”
10. Slip on
11. Hit the slopes
19. Like hen’s teeth
21. “___ takers?”
24. Numskull
25. Stuff
26. Mosquito barriers
27. Scorch
28. Court defense
29. Jeu de mots
32. Sett residents
33. Takes off
34. Shade of green
35. Thicker
36. Stews
39. Part of L.E.D.
42. Not yet final, at law
43. Old flames
44. Double header?
45. What’s more
46. Top
48. Wish undone

**easy**

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**DIY**

**xkcd** - Randall Munroe

- MAYBE ENGINEERING IS THE PURSUIT OF AN UNATTAINABLE PERFECTION.
- MAYBE IT’S IMPOSSIBLE TO CREATE SOMETHING BIG-FREE.
- MAYBE I’M A FOOL.
- MAYBE THE TYRANNY OF MURPHY IS THE PENALTY FOR HUBRIS.
- BUT I JUST CAN’T SHAKE THE FEELING.
- WITH ALL THOSE SUPPLIES

Emergency TechNews approved note paper
**SPORTS**

including Lance Armstrong and Jennie Reed advocated by some of the world’s top cyclists out of corners. Plyometrics have also been this training will give the IIT athletes an edge to power and speed is crucial. Elena feels that use some extra work bridging the gap between season just around the corner, beginning for Division 2. With their spring road exception of instructors to help improve the fitness and athlete has just joined our ever growing team the IIT community. Tony Saddy, a lifelong Intramurals and Recreation at IIT, it is our responsibility to introduce yet another class for the IIT community. Tony Saddy, a lifelong athlete has just joined our ever growing team of instructors to help improve the fitness and well-being of our university.

To start off I must share a little bit of information about the IIT Cycling Club, as they helped arrange for the plyometrics class to take place. Many of you might have known we have a club, but I’m not sure how many know how successful the club has been. Elena Dorr, the current club president and senior Brooke Jeffcoat.各種スポーツでのアスリートが、科学的なトレーニングを重視し、体の柔軟性や筋力、有酸素運動能力を向上させることを目的としています。特に、パワートレーニング（Plyometrics）は、速度とパワーを向上させるトレーニング方法で、IITのアスリートに大きな利益をもたらしています。クロスカントリーの選手たちは、200ヤードリレーのチームで2位、そしてアカデミックチームとしても上位に位置しています。また、フィールドホッケーの選手たちも、その成績を向上させてきました。このように、IITの体育会部門は、科学的なトレーニングを重視し、アスリートを向上させることを目的としています。
COME CELEBRATE
THE 3RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOG

Thursday, February 11, 2010
Bottomless Bog (Free Bowling, Pool, Video Games and Ping-Pong)
Comedians
Caught In the Act 8:30 p.m.
Nice Peter 9 p.m.

Friday, February 12, 2010
IIT Idol Finale 8–10 p.m.
Karaoke 10:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m.

For more information visit: www.facebook.com/BogIIT
Sponsored by the BOG Events Fund, and Campus and Conference Centers