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Homecoming Carnival 2014 celebrates Illinois Tech

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COPY EDITOR

A massive crowd of students had already gathered at the MTCC south lawn by 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 20. Students were greeted by the smells of fresh hot-dogs, churros, popcorn, snow cones, and cotton candy. Illinois Institute of Technology is well known for keeping up its tradition of Homecoming in a different way than other universities.

Homecoming at IIT is more a celebration of the school, where the success of the alumni is celebrated by bringing them back to campus and sharing their stories with students so that they too can work hard and one day, come back with the same pride of being a Hawk alumnus.

It was an opportunity to meet and greet with alumni and make connections. The alumni get a chance to revisit their alma mater, a place they may not have been to in a while. They really want to feel the difference, to know what life is like at the school now and how things have changed.

Unfortunately, not everything was as wonderful. Rainfall played spoilsport, as most of the games were outdoors. People still managed to enjoy their time; the kids were busy in their playing castle, the parents were enjoying their time in beer gardens, and students were busy taking pictures in the photo booth.

The longest lines were for face painting and caricatures because everyone wanted to get something interesting done on their faces and take home a beautiful memory of this event in the form of a caricature that they can keep with them forever.

The artists present there were so perfect that it was taking them hardly five minutes to finish each painting.

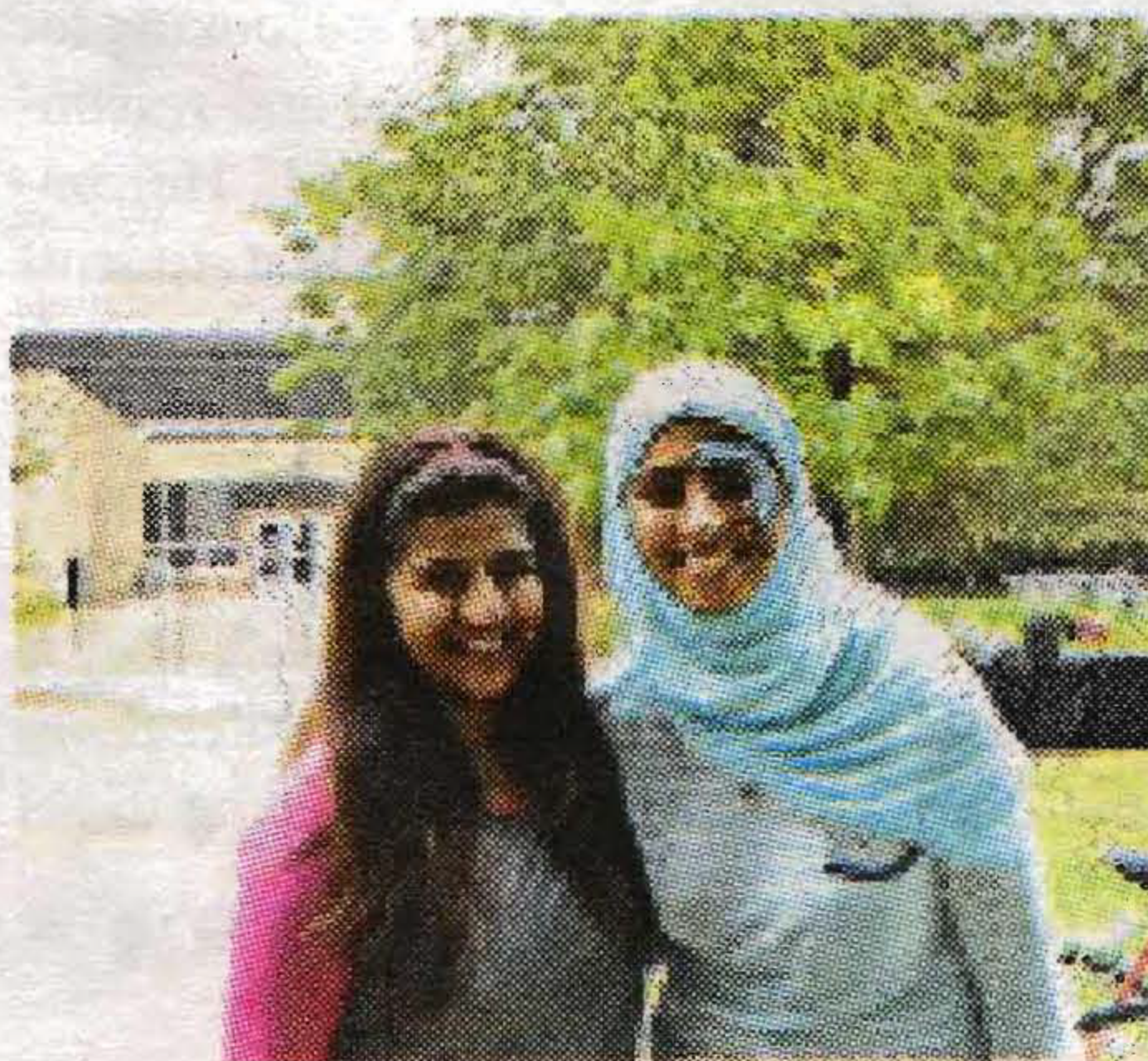
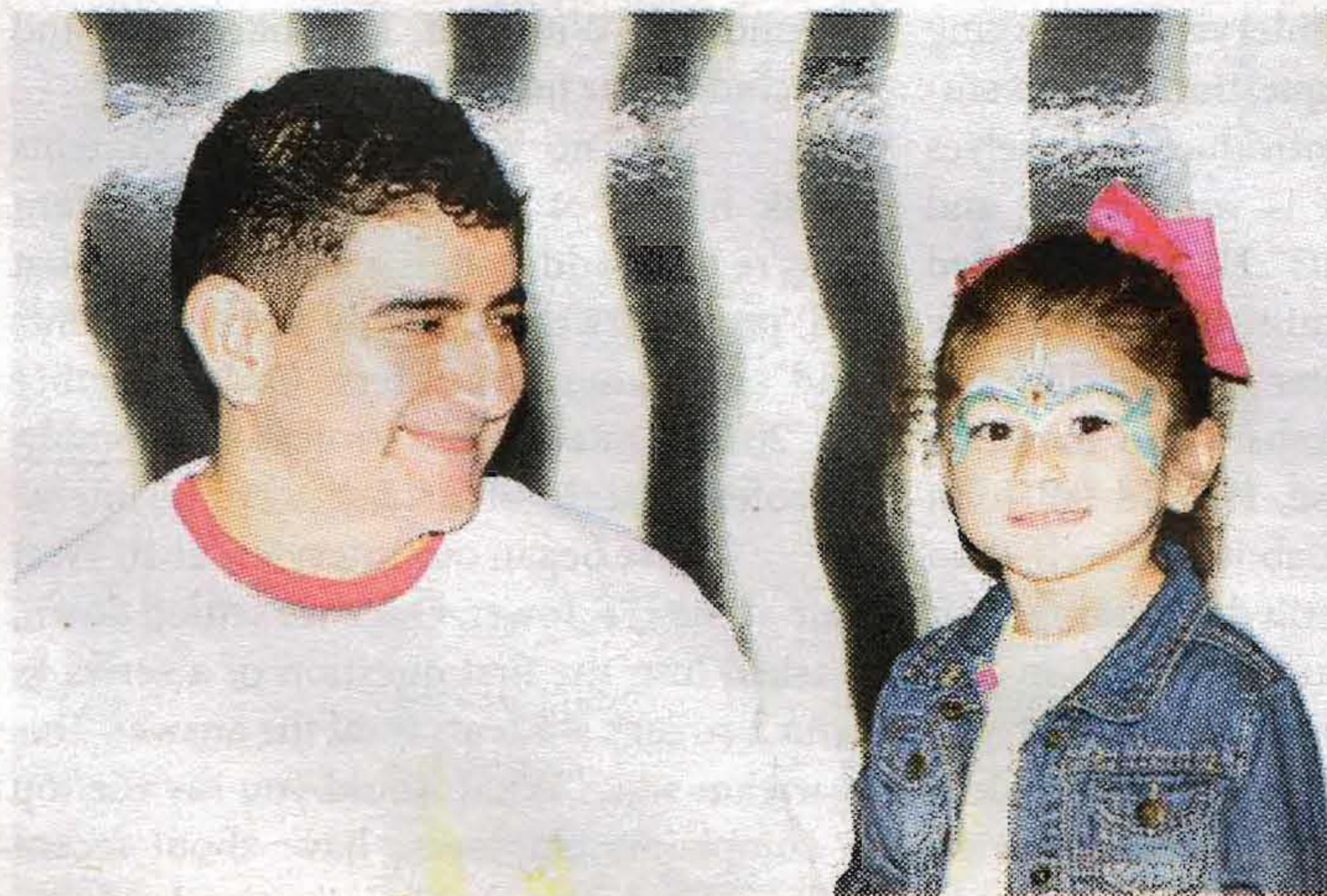
The music would have been enjoyed a lot more had it been a brighter day. The outdoor games were the most popular among students. Although not many alumni were taking part in the games, it was visible on their faces that they were thoroughly enjoying watching young kids enjoying their time.

Aparna Singh, a fourth year student of biomedical engineering said, "For the homecoming weekend, I had an opportunity to play laser tag. I had a really good time with my friends as this was a great stress-buster after a long day." She added excitedly, "After that day, the preparation of homecoming week looked pretty great."

Shreeyeh Rajan, a fourth-year business major said, "Global Alumni Gathering was just a cherry on the cake as it attracted more audience." She paused for a while and further added, "This only helped in bringing back old friends from across the globe which made me sad and happy at the same time. Happy because old friends got to meet each other and sad because I will soon be saying goodbye to my really good friends."

Despite the fact that the weather was not in our favor, the Homecoming Carnival managed to keep a lot of people, which shows that the event was a success and everyone enjoyed the free food.

These moments can never be relived but the memories will be cherished throughout our lives. IIT will always be a home for all of us. No matter where we go and what we are, we will always be welcomed by IIT with the same passion and love.



Photos by Shireen Gul