



TechNews

Student newspaper of the Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

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10th Annual Pumpkin Launch tosses campus into autumn

Kori Bowns
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

One of Illinois Tech's most beloved traditions is the annual Pumpkin Launch event hosted each October by IIT's Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES). In order to compete in Pumpkin Launch, teams of students across a variety of disciplines build machines that throw pumpkins across our university's baseball field. This event attracts hundreds of spectators, including IIT students, family members, staff, faculty, and alumni, as well as members of the local community and media, to Ed Glancy Field each year.

This year's Pumpkin Launch was held on Saturday, October 18, but preparations for the event began long before then. The seven teams that competed in Pumpkin Launch have devoted countless hours over the past few weeks in order to build their pumpkin-throwing machines.

Each of the launchers designed for the competition had to adhere to a variety of rules set forth by BMES and others overseeing the competition. Each device had to have been built solely by currently registered Illinois Institute of Technology, VanderCook, and/or Shimer students. In the past, teams comprised of IIT alumni have competed, which is also permitted. The launchers had maximum total height limits and height limits for any counterweight used to launch the pumpkin, as well as limits on the types of propulsion that could be used.

Several safety regulations were also included as rules to the competition; students had to be able to operate their device from a safe distance as well as wear any necessary protective eyewear while launching. The launchers were also inspected prior to launching by safety inspectors. Additionally, in order to help offset the costs of building a pumpkin launcher and allow more students and teams to participate, teams were each reimbursed \$250 for materials required to build the team's launcher.

Three different types of awards were

up for grabs at this year's launch. The distance and accuracy competition have been a part of IIT's pumpkin launch for several years. Teams win the distance competition by launching the pumpkin furthest and win the accuracy competition by being able to most accurately guess the distance of their launches. For each of these contests, a first, second, and third place prize is awarded, each with a prize money award of \$200, \$150, and \$100, respectively, in the form of TechCash.

A third award, the Crowd Favorite award, returned after its debut last year. Before the launch, spectators of the event had the opportunity to view each launcher and vote for their favorite; the team with the most votes wins this award.

The competition was also one of several events that are a part of the Office of Campus Life's IIT Family Weekend, which takes place each fall. According to the office, Family Weekend is a time for the entire extended IIT community to partake in the school spirit that our students experience throughout the academic year. The event was also a Freshman 15 event, one of a collection of events that the Office of Campus Life encourages all first-year students to attend.

Friday night before the competition began, several teams were busy at work putting the finishing touches on their launchers. Many teams moved their launchers to the baseball field to save time in the morning as well as try to get a bit of last-minute testing in. Unfortunately, poor weather plagued teams who worked late into the night; colder temperatures, isolated rain showers, and high winds made working difficult. A few students were undeterred and worked all through the night, facing the elements, to ensure a successful launch in the morning.

Early in the morning on Saturday, October 18, the weather had improved some, allowing all teams to get to work. By 11 a.m., each of the seven launchers had lined up along the baselines of Ed Glancy Field. The types of devices at this year's launch varied slightly more than previous

years; varieties of launchers included a spinning launcher as well as some less-common types of trebuchets.

Even before the competition began, several activities were underway to entertain spectators. Several pumpkins were available for those who wanted to try their hand at carving a masterpiece, and many food trucks had arrived at the event so spectators could grab a quick bite to eat.

The competition kicked off at 1 p.m. to a slow start. Several launchers faced problems when it was time for them to throw their first pumpkin. The first forward launch came from one of the teams set up along the third base line, Skull Crushers, a team comprised of several students from the Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity on campus. After this first launch, pumpkins began to move quickly—both in intended and unintended directions.

The competition was emceed by Katherine Stetz, IIT's Dean of Students, who kept up a light mood at the competition even as some teams were plagued with technical difficulties.

One of the most impressive launches of the event came from the second-round launch of team Mach 2, comprised of students from Illinois Tech Robotics (ITR), a student organization on campus. Their launcher spun its rotating arm up to a speed that was able to throw their pumpkin hurling through the air toward the fence on the other side of the field.

As the day wore on, several devices suffered irreparable damage that made them unable to launch again. Some teams, such as the team comprised of students from IIT's Society of Physics Students, met their end on their first launch; their floating arm launcher suffered a bent axle after their first attempt, leaving their pumpkin on the ground and their launcher unable to throw again. Moving Parts, a team who had built a King Arthur trebuchet, also suffered competition-ending damage following their second official launch, but not before throwing a few pumpkins an impressive

distance.

As launches went on throughout the day, several members of local media also took note of the event, including reporters and photographers from the Chicago Tribune as well as reporters from CBS Chicago.

A few special final launches closed out the competition. First, a pumpkin that was carved to be able to encase a GoPro camera was loaded into the Skull Crushers' launcher and thrown into the air, capturing some fun first-person footage of the event. The last launch of the event was loaded into ITR's Mach 2 launcher by IIT's very own President Anderson.

After the three official rounds of launches, the prize winners were announced on the baseball field. The first place winner for the distance competition was ITR's Mach 2 with a distance of 290 feet. The second place distance winner, with a distance of 173 feet, was Phi Kappa Sigma's Skull Crushers team. Third place went to Moving Parts with a distance of 161 feet.

These three teams were also those who won awards for the accuracy competition. The most accurate distance estimate was made by Skull Crushers, who estimated their launcher to reach 175 feet and had an actual distance of 173 feet. Second place for accuracy went to Mach 2, and third place accuracy went to Moving Parts. The Crowd Favorite award went home with Mach 2.

Even though this year's Pumpkin Launch had fewer launchers than those of previous years, the competition was still impressive and full of many impressive feats of engineering, as well as a few fun blunders. Many thanks go out to the three professors who were advisors and safety inspectors for the event: Professor Matthew Spenko, Professor Carlo Segre, and Professor Derek Kamper. Pumpkin Launch is always an exciting event that is sure to remain a staple of IIT tradition for years to come.



Photos by Kori Bowns and Kevin Zheng
(More photos on Page 3)

TechNews

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SINCE 1928

McCormick Tribune Campus Center
Room 221
3201 South State Street
Chicago, Illinois 60616E-mail: editor@technewsit.com
Website: http://www.technewsit.com

TechNews STAFF

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Opinion Editor	Austin Gonzalez
Sports Editor	Nathan McMahon
Business Manager	Kyle Stanevich
IT Manager	Pranava Teja Surukuchi
Copy Editors	Vijai Baskar Kristal Copeland Shireen Gul Sharath Ramesh Anoopa Sundararajan
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Our mission is to promote student discussion and bolster the IIT community by providing a newspaper that is highly accessible, a stalwart of journalistic integrity, and a student forum. TechNews is dedicated to the belief that a strong campus newspaper is essential to a strong campus community.

GENERAL INFORMATION

TechNews is written, managed, and edited by the students of, and funded in part by, Illinois Institute of Technology. The material herein does not necessarily reflect the opinions of Illinois Institute of Technology or the editors, staff, and advisor of TechNews. There will be no censorship of TechNews publication by the faculty or staff of IIT. Sole authority and responsibility for publication and adherence to the values set forth in this policy rests with the TechNews staff. This paper seeks to bring together the various segments of the Illinois Tech community and strives through balance and content to achieve a position of respect and excellence. TechNews strives for professionalism with due respect to the intellectual values of the university and its community. All material submitted becomes the property of TechNews, and is subject to any editorial decisions deemed necessary.

SUBMISSIONS

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Carr Chapel Rededicated

Shireen Gul
COPY EDITOR

On Wednesday, October 1, 2014, the Robert F. Carr Memorial Chapel at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) hosted a rededication of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's chapel in partnership with the Mies van der Rohe Society.

Carr Chapel was dedicated in 1952; now, 62 years later, IIT and the Mies Society came together to re-dedicate this unique and important space, and thanks to the many donors whose generosity enabled IIT to complete much-needed renovations. Led by T. Gunny Harboe of Chicago's Harboe Architects, the restoration replaced a leaking roof and hundreds of cracked exterior bricks, redid mortar joints, repaired corroded steel frames, refinished the terrazzo floor, cleaned and repaired interior brick, and refinished wood doors and benches.

The rededication included statements by T. Gunny Harboe (the project's restoration architect), Barbara Donnelley (a Mies van der Rohe Society board member), Lynne Meyer (Director of Spiritual Life at the Illinois Institute of Technology), and Aron Dunlap (Assistant Professor at Shimer College). The program concluded with a chamber music performance by the Civitas Ensemble and a closing reception.

TechNews was lucky enough to interview Lynne Meyer after the rededication to find out about her thoughts and excitement for this event. "One of my favorite portions of the program was the opportunity to enjoy a performance by the incredibly talented Civitas Ensemble," said Lynne Meyer, Director of the Office of Spiritual Life and Service Learning. She added further, "The chapel, as it turns out,

has amazing acoustics," and the music filled the space beautifully.

Upon questioning how students of IIT can be a part of this Chapel, Meyer replied, "First and foremost: Use the chapel. Carr is available for students to use, not only for worship, but also for meetings, social events, and more, and students of all religious and non-religious backgrounds are both welcome and encouraged to use it."

Meyer also stressed that one of the chapel's features that makes it an interfaith-friendly space is the fact that there is very little that visibly marks it as Christian; this is in keeping with Mies' vision that the chapel be welcoming to people of different faiths. Even the cross can be covered by the curtain placed behind it. If a non-Christian group plans to use the chapel and wishes to have the cross covered, it's simply a matter of letting Campus Life know this when booking the space, and Event Services will take care of it.

"We're all so busy here at IIT. Many of us, at one point or another, find ourselves overwhelmed with stress, or becoming isolated from others because we're working so hard and not tending to our inner needs," explained Meyer when asked how such events can bring change in IIT. She further added, "On an urban campus like ours, places of refuge and quietude become especially important. We all need to take some time once in a while to go within, to seek community and support with others, and think about who we are, why we do what we do, and how we may bring our best to the world around us. Our health-spiritual, emotional, and physical-benefits when we do so."

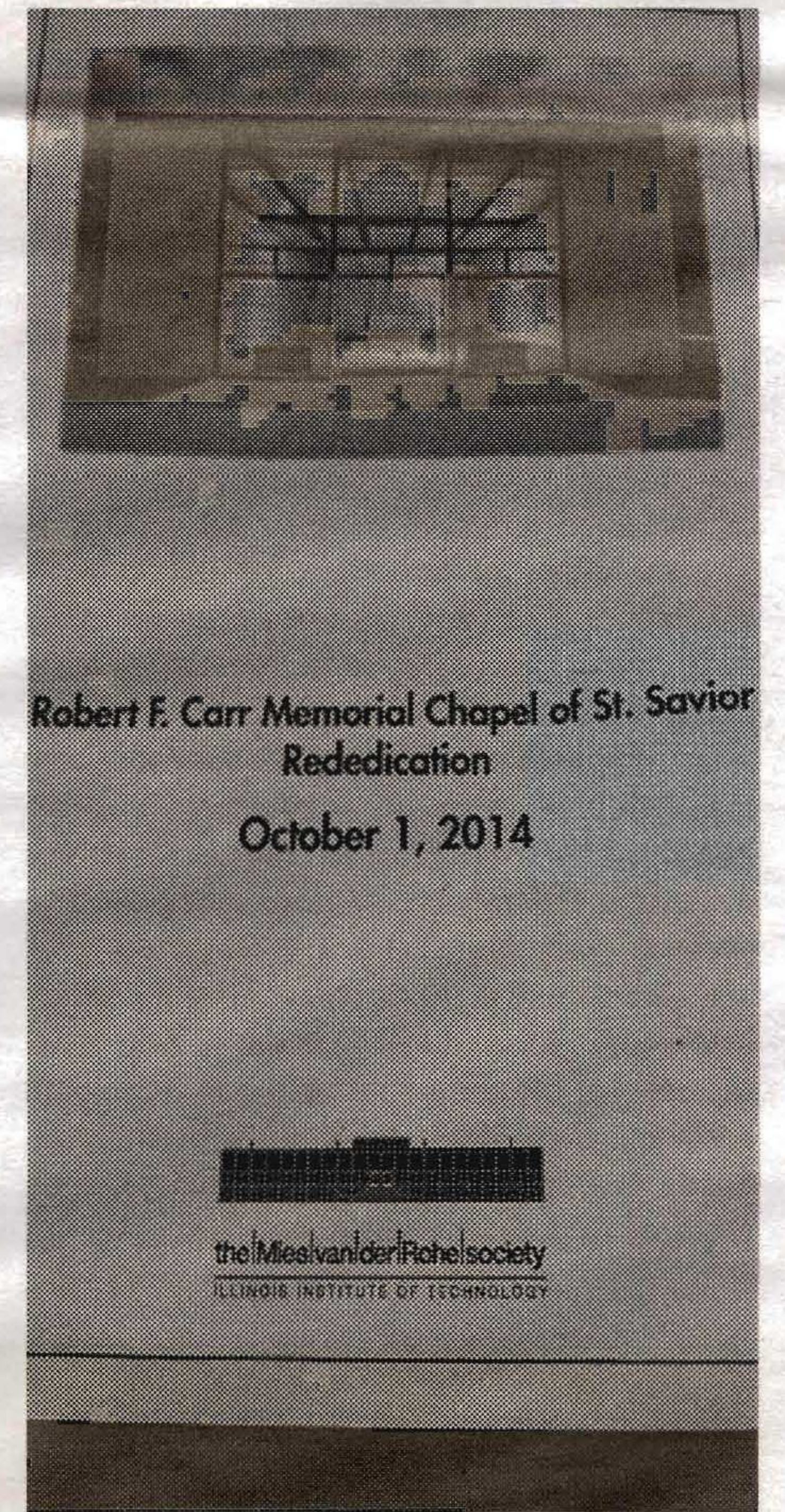
The simplicity and quietude of the chapel makes it a space that encourages self-reflection and discovery. Mies specifically "intended that visitors would feel 'the hope of finding oneself' in the small space." Meyer

was really excited to be a part of this event and wanted everyone to understand not only the importance of Carr Chapel but also to know that how important self-reflection and socializing is, "One does not find oneself solely through prayer or reflection, of course. We also find ourselves through relationship with others, and so the social aspect of the chapel is equally important. This small, simple space is especially conducive to conversation, and it's a great place for students to come together and become friends."

She ended her interview with closing remarks for the speech which she made for this event; "Albert Einstein, in an essay in 1937, wrote: 'All religions, arts and sciences are branches of the same tree. All these aspirations are directed toward ennobling man's life, lifting it from the sphere of mere physical existence and leading the individual towards freedom.'" There is, perhaps, no better testament to the truth of his words than Carr Chapel.

For 62 years, this chapel has nobly served the students of Illinois Tech, providing generations of scientists of all faiths with a spiritual home and a place at which to reflect on the deepest of life's questions. Students and alumni have been married here, had their children baptized here, and memorialized lost loved ones. Every week, students gather to pray, to celebrate, to challenge one another to grow to become their best selves. In this place, they are offered a reminder that they need not choose between their academic aspirations and their spirituality; here, they may be in their wholeness.

The goal of this sacred space remains the same as it was when it was dedicated so many years ago, to engage the student body "in the search for virtue while we become proficient in the search for things."



Photos by Shireen Gul

IEEE@IIT Second General Body Meeting Coming Up

Vijai Baskar
COPY EDITOR

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers at IIT (IEEE) will be hosting their second general body meeting on Wednesday, October 22 at the Engineering I auditorium (E1 104) at 12:50 p.m. The guest speaker for the event is a professional from Siemens. This will provide a great career opportunity for students as Siemens is looking to hire a large number of engineers over the year. As always, lunch will be provided for attendees of the event.

Elections for the Program Chair position took place over the weekend. Applications for the position were received from late September. The candidate bios were put up on

the IEEE website for students to decide on who to vote for the position. The results of the election will be announced at the General Body meeting and a fresh face will come on board the Executive member body of the IEEE at IIT.

The organization is also planning to host a barbecue event, which will be held on Friday, October 31 in the Siegel Field at 12:30 p.m. This will be a great mid-semester get together event and students will get a chance to talk and mingle with professors and executive board members. It is a great opportunity to get an idea of what they do and how they carry out events throughout the semester.

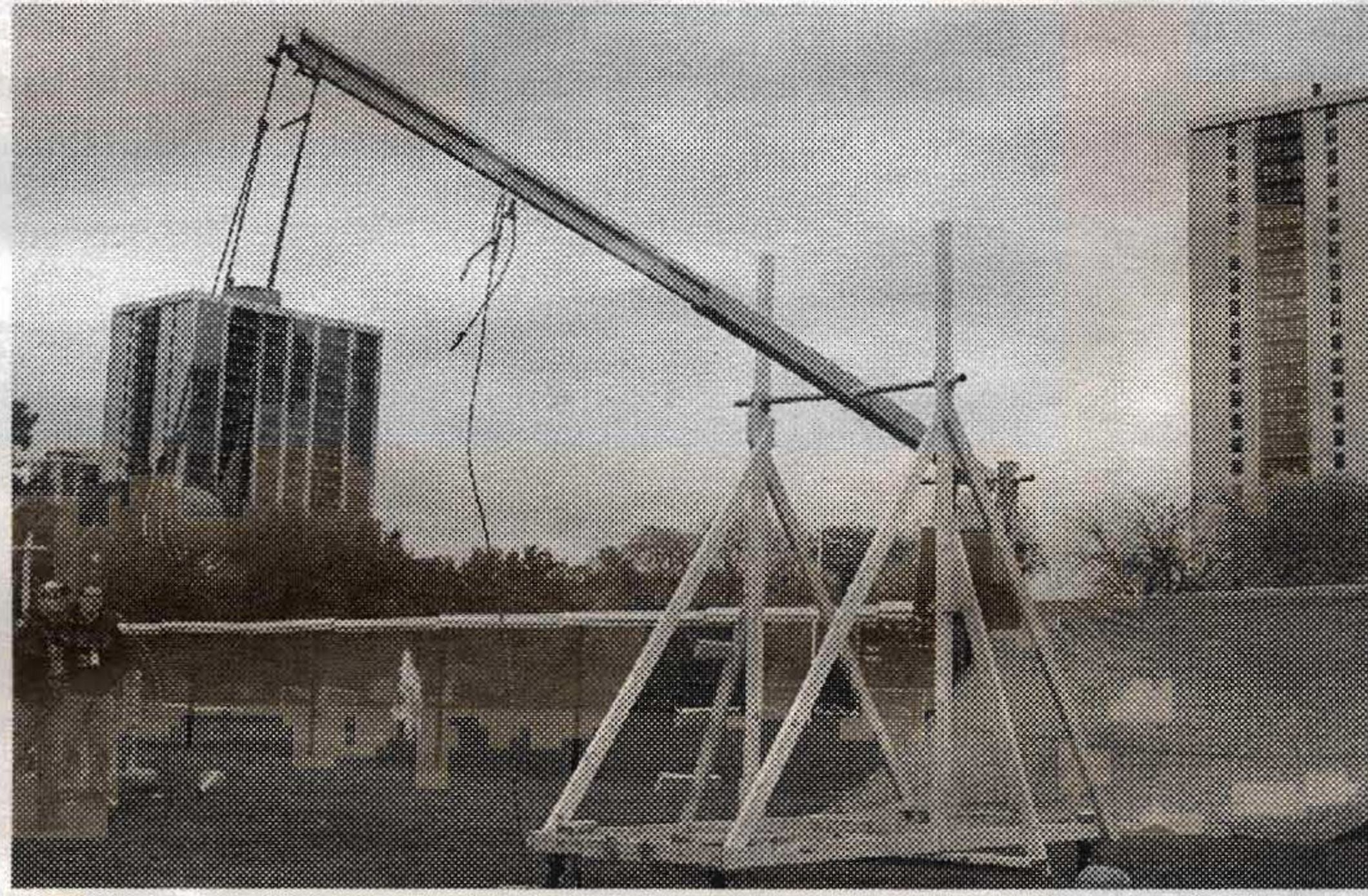
The Professional Engineering (P.E.) Workshop for Computer and Electrical Engineers will take place on Saturday, October 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Sargent and

Lundy Company, 55 East Monroe St 35th floor, Chicago. This workshop will focus on the benefits of becoming a P.E., provide tips and steps to prepare for becoming a P.E. in the field of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Lunch will be provided for the participants of the workshop.

The IEEEExtreme 24 hour programming competition commenced at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 17 and went through the next day. Around 1,700 Teams from all over the world participated in this competition, which involved hackers finding solutions to a number of challenges that were given to them, two at a time, with a gap of two hours between every release. Three teams from IIT participated in this competition and they were well placed among the competitors.

10th Annual Pumpkin Launch tosses campus into autumn

(Continued from Page 1)



Photos by Kori Bowns and Kevin Zheng

Hypnotist David Hall visits the Bog

Shireen Gul
COPY EDITOR

The Bog was overtaken by the power of hypnosis on October 16. The crowd was sitting there waiting for David Hall, a Boston-based comedian hypnotist, to perform his hilarious hypnosis show in which the guests are the stars of the show.

Hall has been doing hypnosis for 10 years and he says that this is his passion and that he really enjoys doing it. He will hypnotize guests into performing funny skits such as thinking they are in a dance competition for one million dollars, thinking they are a space alien sent to your event to tell everyone about the planet Mars, and many more interesting ideas.

He started the show by telling everyone to stretch both arms straight while closing their eyes and imagining that they have a heavy stone in their left hand and right hand is empty. He observed everyone and for anyone whose left hand was dropping down, he called them on stage because he knew they are good target for hypnotism.

Soon, some awesome people occupied the stage and they were really excited to get hypnotized. Hall played his hypnotism music, which was really soothing and inter-

esting. Everyone there was waiting for the students to get hypnotized and in a while all the people who were sitting on the stage fall asleep. And that was the time when the real fun started because Hall was making them do hilarious stuff such as telling them to imagine he were naked in front and then he would jump in front of them and everyone on the stage would close their eyes. The show lasted for 45 minutes and each and every stunt he did was worth watching, especially with the background music.

As mentioned on his website, what makes David's comedy hypnosis show truly unique is he is a multi-dimensional entertainer who has extensive experience in many aspects of the performing arts. It also mentions that "The theatrical aspects that make his hypnosis show great include: specialized training in stage hypnosis from the Stage Hypnosis Center in Las Vegas and training in improvisational theater/sketch comedy from Boston's famous Improv Asylum." In addition, he has also been a traveling magician for the past 10 years, performing all over the United States and as far as Dubai in the Middle East.

If you are interested in learning more about David Hall the please visit his website: www.davidhallmagic.com or follow him on Facebook David Hall Magician/Hypnotist.

WHICH IS THE FRAIL SEX?

An interesting lecture for all by Dr. Daniel L. Kruger, University of Michigan

TODAY Oct. 21, 2014
3:15 - 4:45 p.m.
MTCC Ballroom

In his talk Dr. Kruger, using an evolutionary framework, explains how male competition for resources, status, and mates lead to heightened male mortality through riskier behavior and increased stress. But since sex differences in mortality depend on social and environmental conditions, various interventions are possible.

Light refreshments will be served.

TechNews corrections

Last week, in an article about the October Sharing Table event, The images accompanying the article were credited to Shireen Gul. This information is incorrect.

The images were taken by and are accredited to Katy Banks. We apologize for the confusion.

RHA Boat Cruise sets sail

Khaleela Zaman
STAFF WRITER

Three school buses took off from the McCormick Tribune Campus Center with 350 excited students and staff aboard late on the evening of Friday, October 10. All of these people were heading toward the Odyssey, a multi-level boat docked at Navy Pier, which was decorated in a Tropical Hawaiian Luau theme for the Residence Hall Association's annual Boat Cruise.

Once everyone was equipped with their flower leis, they walked back out into the chilly air to board the boat at about 1 a.m. As each person boarded the boat, everyone who

desired was professionally photographed in front of the Odyssey buoy with their friends and received a free print of the photograph upon departure. Once everyone was finally on the boat, it slowly left the dock to cruise around Lake Michigan.

When the door to the first level of the boat was opened, as soon as they boarded the boat, an immediate rush of anticipation was felt, even worse than the anticipation while waiting in line to board. First enveloped by darkness in the entryway, and then led into a dim red-orange glow, everyone made his or her way towards the first dance floor.

Upstairs, there was another DJ and an additional dance floor, adjacent to which

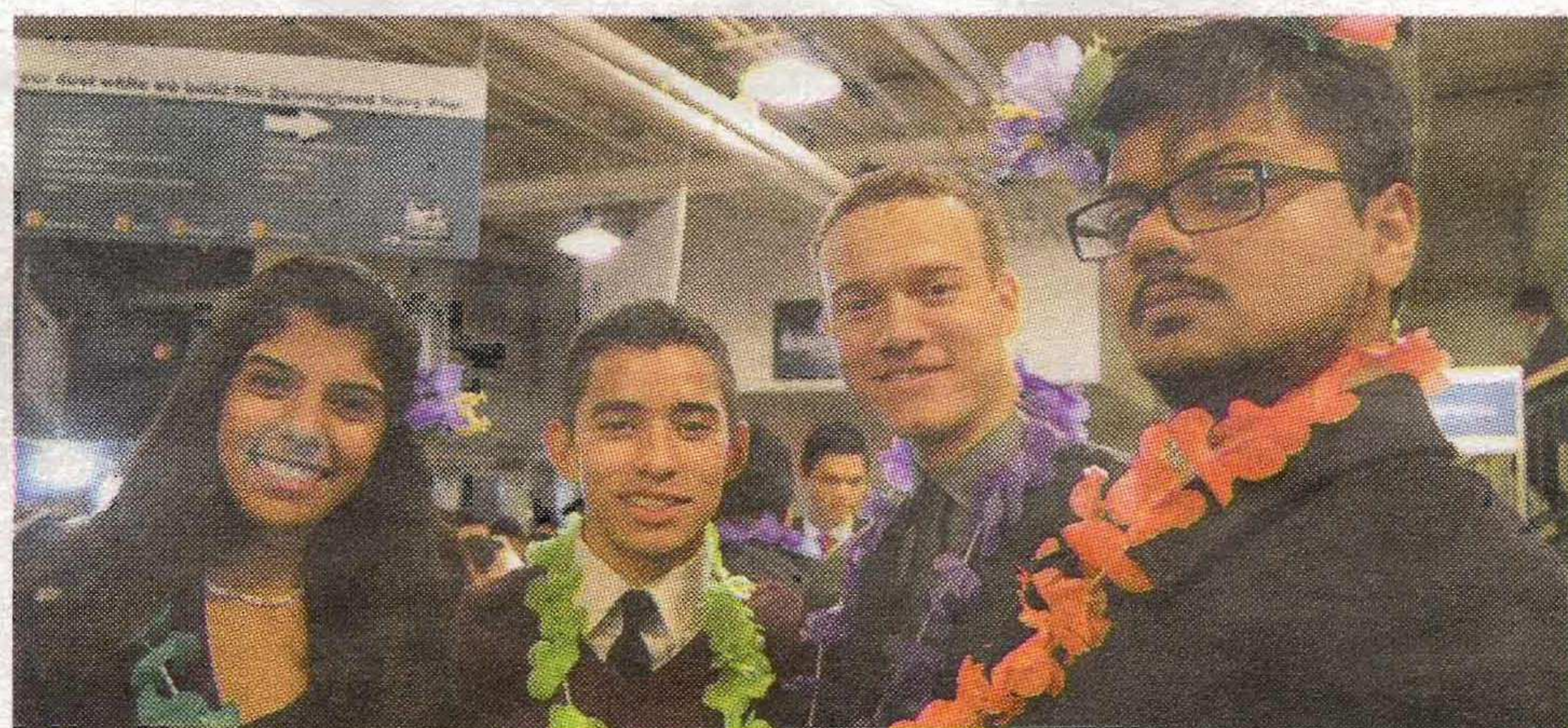
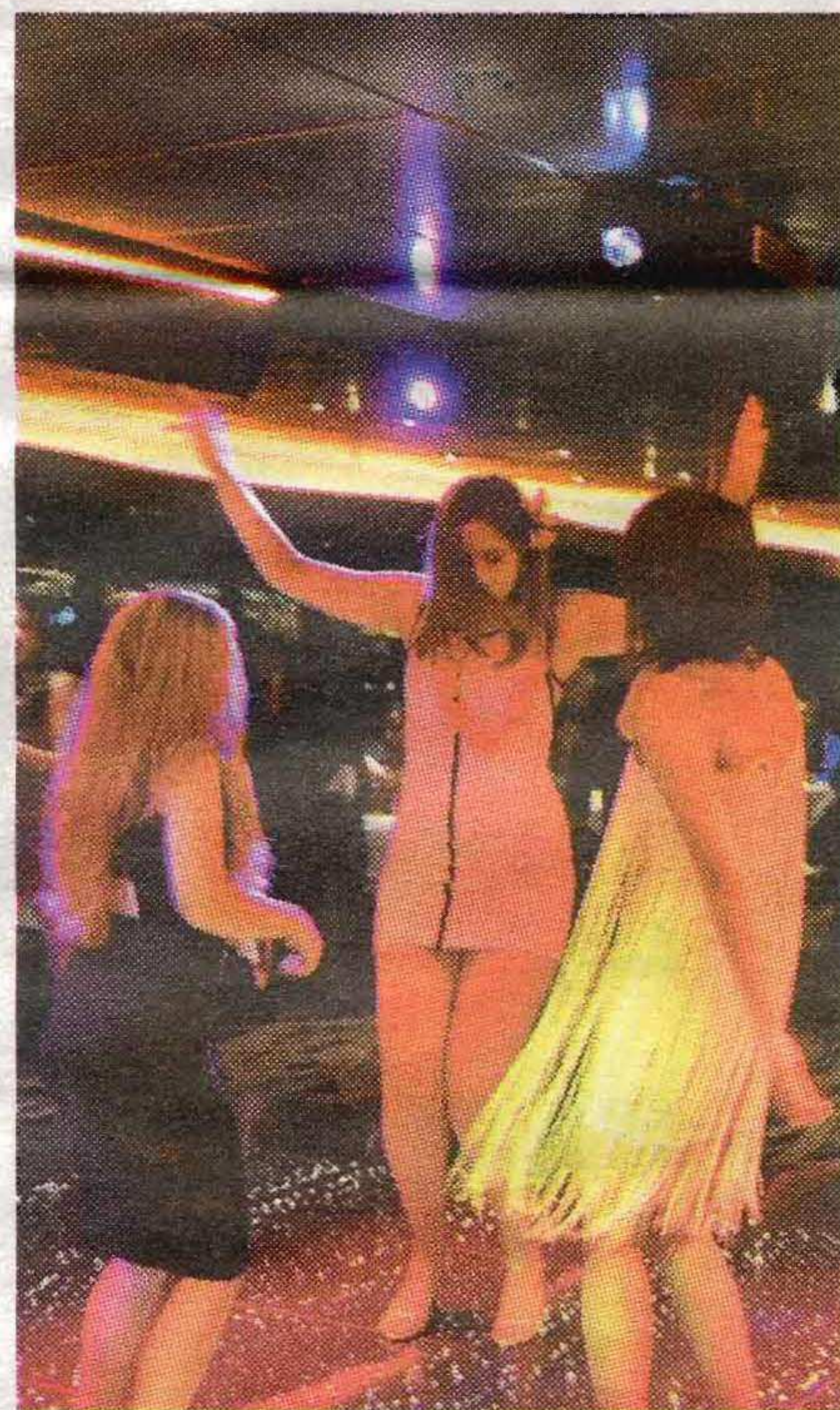
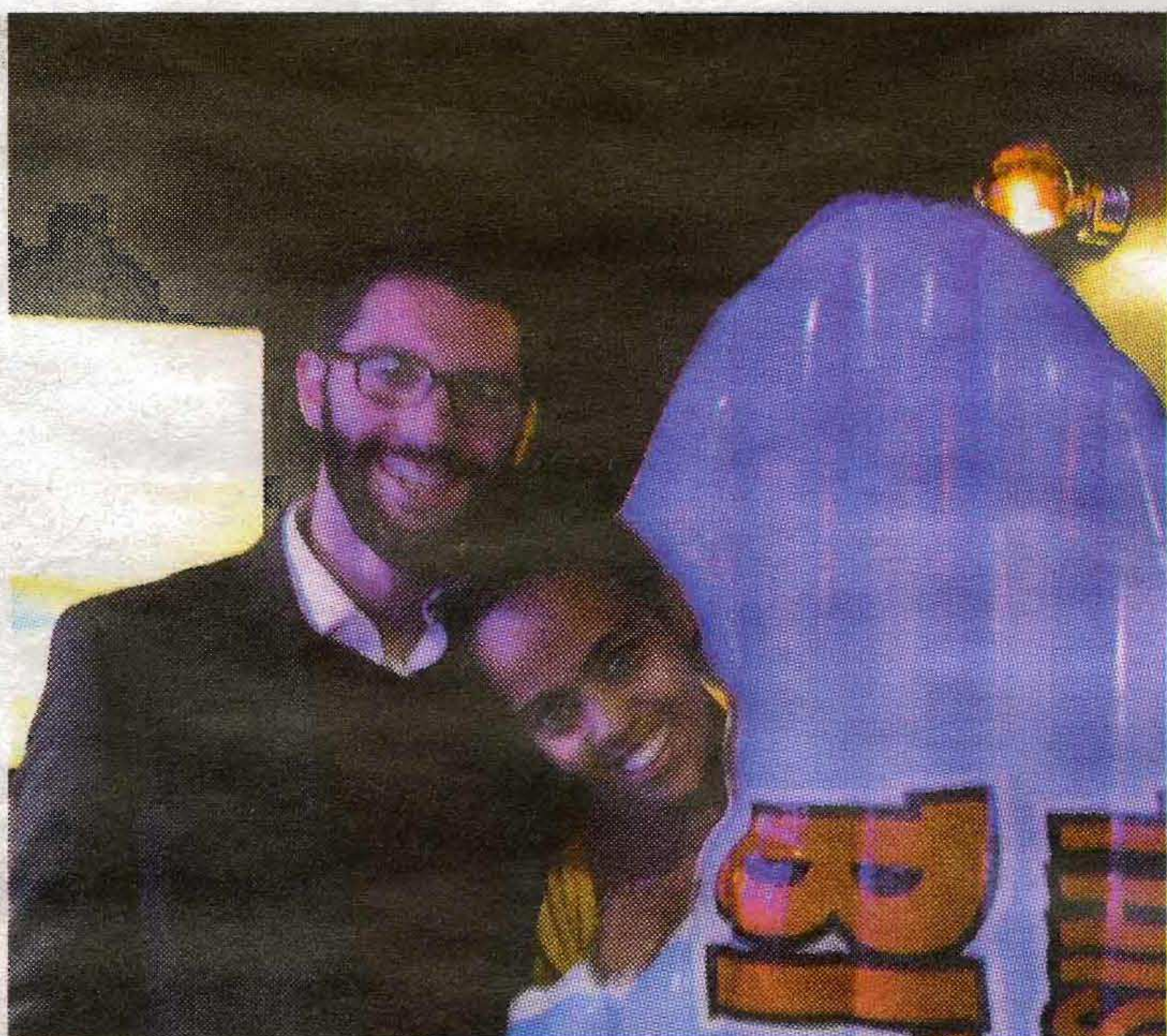
was a hidden staircase up to the open-air top deck of the boat. Besides enjoying the fresh, cool air of the early Saturday morning, the view of the Chicago skyline under the lights was quite stunning. Descending all the way to the lowest level of the boat, this level was completely occupied with casino games. Some students were even allowed to be dealers for the game blackjack.

The Boat Cruise attendees played the games to earn raffle tickets to increase their chances of winning a digital camera, television, DJ headphones, laptop, or one of sixty small gift bags. While the casino games and dancing were going on, people also had the option of eating some finger foods. Once the games

were done for the night, the dance floors became more populated and lively.

When the boat docked back at Navy Pier by about 3 a.m., the last of the prizes were given away and people started boarding the first school bus at 3:30 a.m. The night had passed by so fast—many agreed that it would have been nice if the boat could have cruised around the lake for a longer period of time.

Soon afterwards, all the decorations were taken down, packed up, and everyone left the boat with a bittersweet emotion amid the cool air. By about 4:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 11, the RHA Boat Cruise was complete, with everyone safely back to campus.



Photos by Khaleela Zaman

SGA

sga@iit.edu

SGA Senate Election Candidate Bio Correction

William Bafia
TECHNEWS WRITER

Student Government Association (SGA) held a set of special elections to fill the remaining seats available in Senate for the College of Science and Stuart School of Business, on Tuesday, October 7, 2014. To help promote

the elections, SGA published candidate bios in the 6th issue of TechNews.

Unfortunately, when copying data and then submitting it to TechNews, candidate Christopher "CJ" Urban's information was incorrectly copied and thus incorrectly published in TechNews. SGA apologizes for the incorrect information being printed in Tech-

News and recognizes the following information should have been printed instead:

"If elected as a Senator of the College of Science, I would keep an open door policy of communication with my fellow students and the faculty of the College of Science. My involvement as a senator would include working to be involved with all of the students from

each department within the College of Science. I would seek out advice from our faculty, while addressing all of the needs of our students. I will represent the students with honor, duty, and purpose."

Chicago Fire Festival falls flat

Kyle Stanevich
BUSINESS MANAGER

To celebrate the 143rd anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire, the Redmoon Theatre, contracted by the City of Chicago, scheduled the inaugural Great Chicago Fire Festival. The purpose of the event was to bring together all the neighborhoods and celebrate the grit and resilience of Chicago. This event was hyped quite a bit, but even after tons of money and planning, the event fell flat.

During the day, there were a few smaller events including some vendors, food trucks, and entertainment. However, these

events were not the main part of the celebration. What most people came for was the burning of Victorian-style model houses floating on rafts on the Chicago River. This is when the problems started.

The crowds that came for the spectacle started lining the river and bridges, but there was not enough room for everyone to get a good view. This made traveling along the river next to impossible, and finding a good vantage point even worse. There were some odd locations eventually taken including the railings of bridges, in nearby buildings, and even a few people sitting on top of the Porta-Potties.

The burning of the floating houses, which was supposed to start at 8 p.m. did not

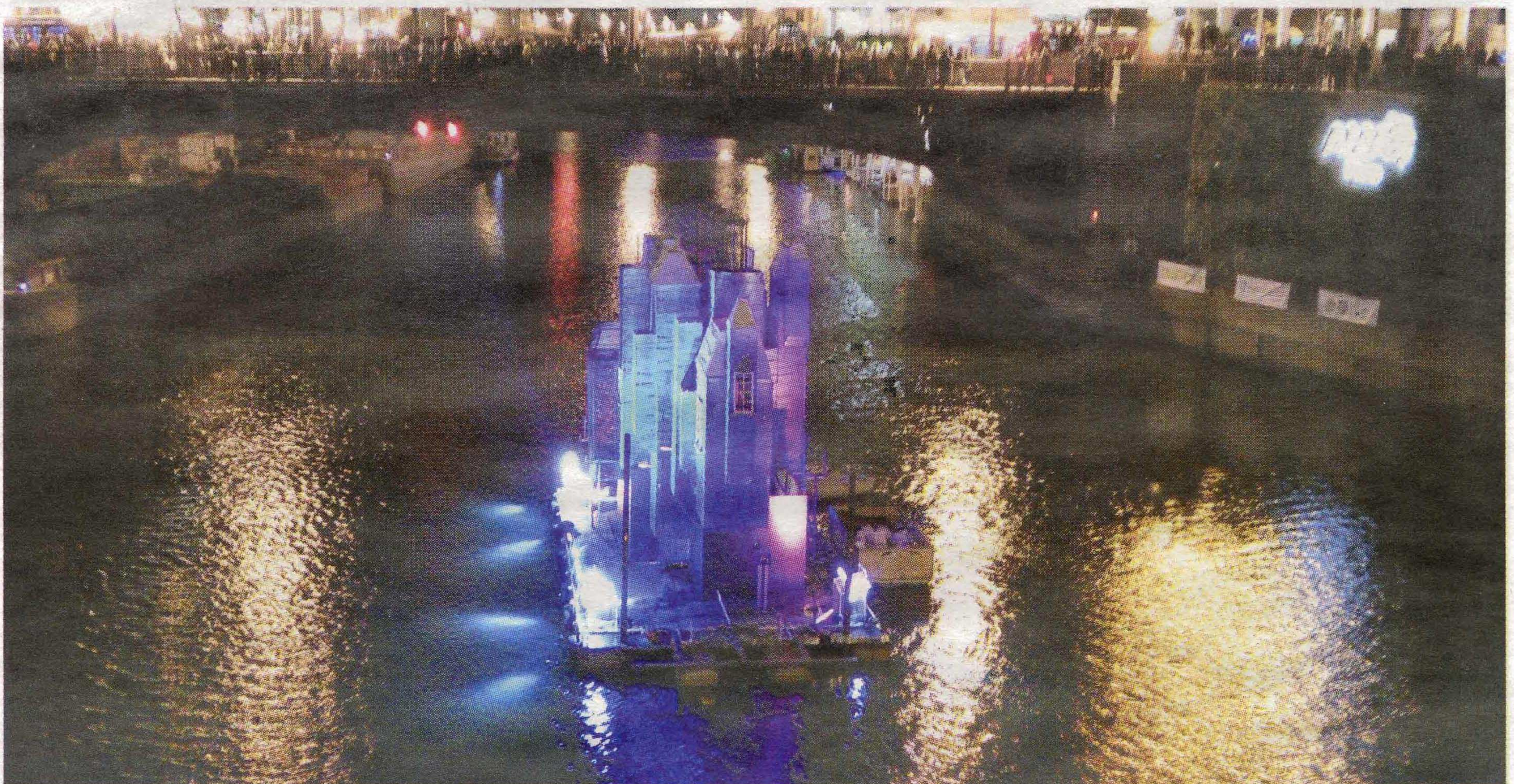
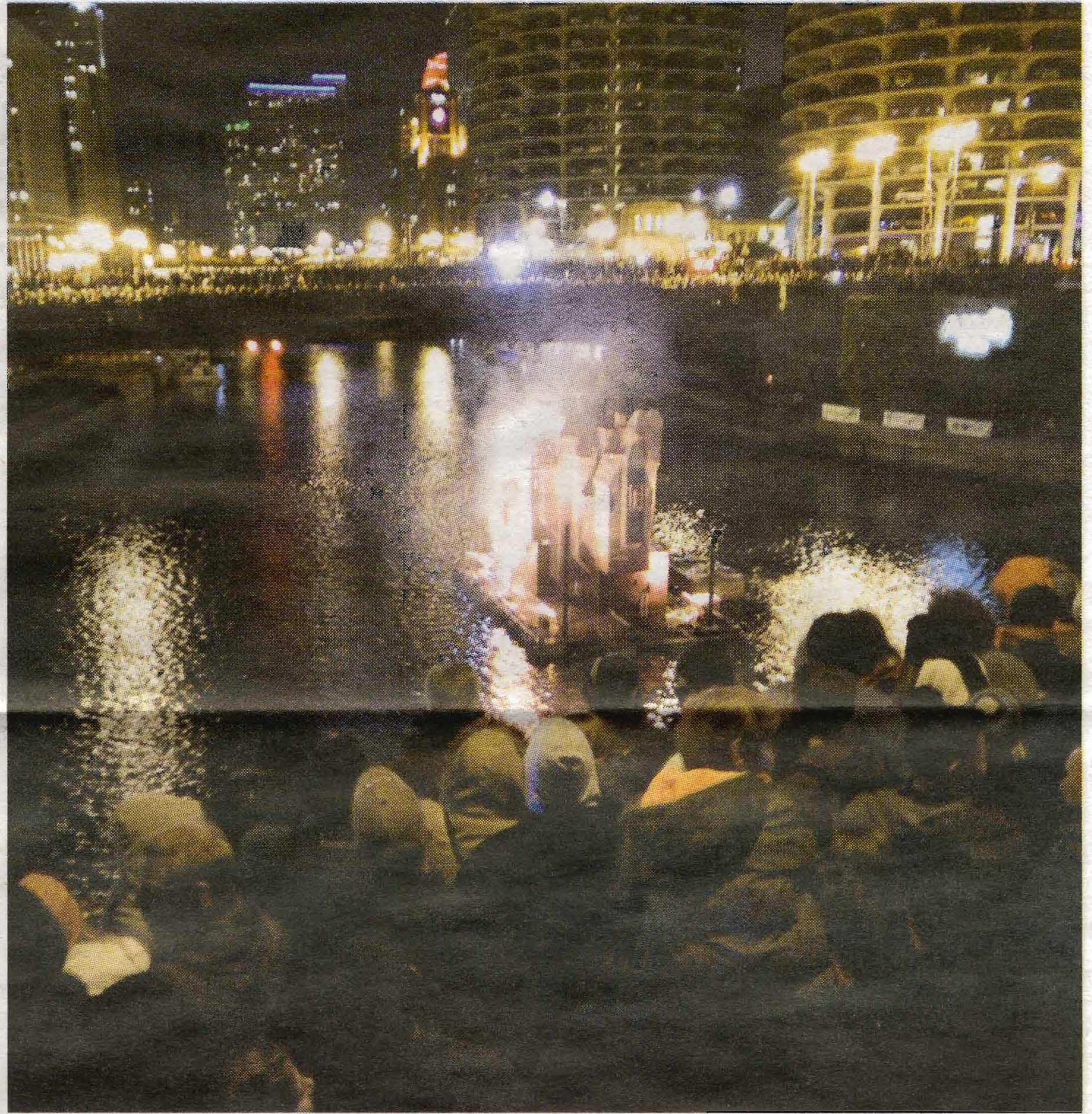
start until after 9 p.m. This delay, along with the chilly weather, was enough to make the crowds start complaining. Left and right, people were commenting about how poorly the thing was running and how it was a waste of time. The crowds starting thinning.

After many delays and electrical problems, there were finally some successful attempts to set the houses on fire. However, due to the wet weather earlier in the week, the flames quickly died down, leaving the homes mostly intact. At this point, most people had just given up and left. Even though fireworks were promised afterward, nobody wanted to wait around in the increasingly colder weather, especially after standing in a large crowd for

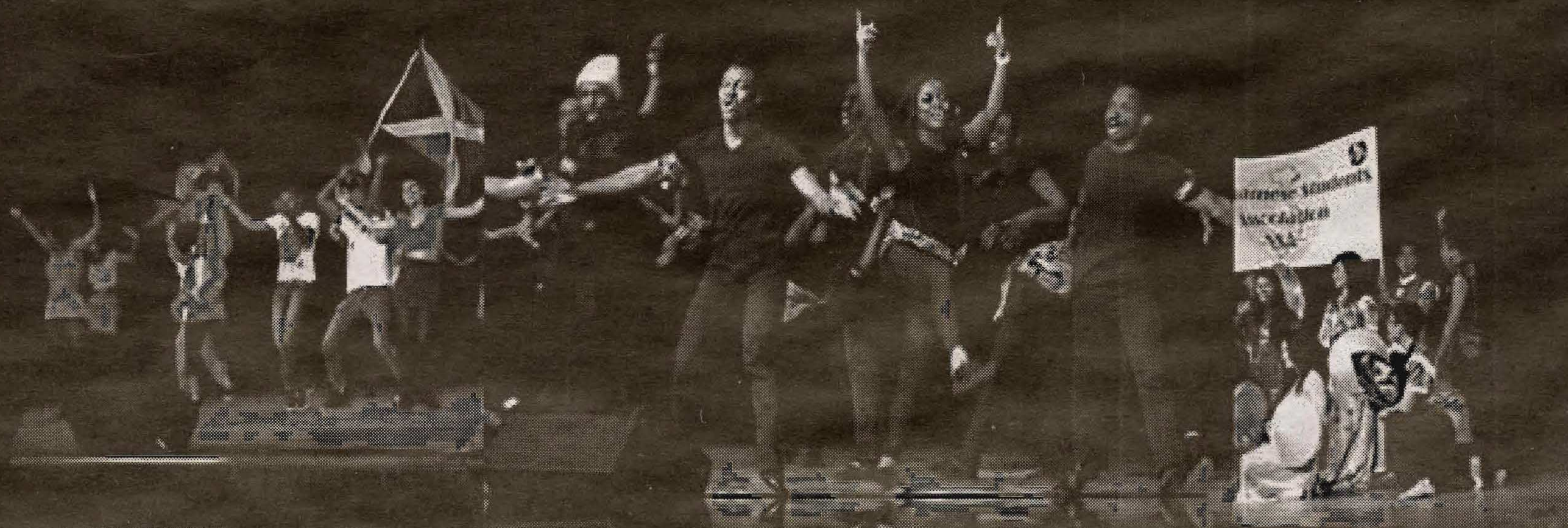
hours.

The one thing that did go well was the fireworks show. With multiple launch points along the river, the fireworks were amazing. It was not a long show, but quite the spectacle as the lights reflected off the nearby buildings. Those who were patient enough to stick around finally got a good show, but it was not worth waiting in the cold sea of people for 2 hours.

A six year old in the crowd managed to summarize the entire show in a game of I spy: "I spy Chicago, I spy something not on fire."



I-FEST 2014



“International Vibes - BEATS, RHYTHM & FASHION.”

DATE: 24th October 2014

TIME: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

VENUE: Herman Hall McCormick
Auditorium

For more information:
iso.lit.edu@gmail.com

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And now...a comic!

Sam Kepp
ART EDITOR



WE ARE ALWAYS ACCEPTING SLIPSTICK SUBMISSIONS
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NATHAN MCMAHON

SPORTS

Scarlet Hawks down Carroll

Nathan McMahon
SPORTS EDITOR

The Illinois Tech women's soccer team improved to a score of 7-5 on the season after an impressive 1-0 victory over Carroll University on a rainy night. The Scarlet Hawks did not have to wait long for the winning goal coming in the 22nd minute. Veronica Torres drove in a low, hard corner that slid through a crowded box to the back post where Adrianna Maron had pulled free of her mark to slide the ball past the

keeper for her fifth goal of the year and second game winner.

The Scarlet Hawks were in control for the remainder of the game outshooting Carroll by a margin of 19-8 with many chances that were nearly converted. The Hawks have been absolutely dominant in shutting down the opposing offenses for only 12 goals in 12 games. The Scarlet Hawks look to reach a double digit win total with 5 matches remaining in a final push for earning a bid to the national championship.

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TechNews

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Tuesday, October 21
Women's Soccer
vs. Elmhurst
7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 22
Men's Soccer
vs. Moody Bible
7 p.m.

Saturday, October 25
Women's Volleyball
@ Moody Bible
12 p.m.

Women's Soccer
@ St. Mary-Woods
2 p.m.

Tuesday, October 28
Women's Volleyball
@ Maranatha Baptist
7 p.m.

Men's Soccer
@ Carthage
7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 29
Women's Soccer
@ Rockford
3 p.m.

Friday, October 31
Women's Volleyball
vs. Aurora
7 p.m.

Saturday, November 1
Women's Soccer
vs. Lincoln Christian
1:30 p.m.



GLBT History Month Weekly Programs



Featured speaker
SARAH PRAGER

Tuesday, October 21 @ 7 pm
MTCC Auditorium

Best known for the creation of the mobile app Quist, Sarah Prager will talk about her app, LGBTQ history, and the importance of movement-building.

Sign up now for the Campus Life Excellence Awards!



Nominations now being accepted on HawkLink!

Other Upcoming Events...

TransGeneration Episode Screening II

October 22, 12:45 p.m., The Bog

Sponsor: GLBT Services & Campus Life

This will be a follow up episode to the first screening of *TransGeneration*, though new viewers are also welcome to join. Lunch will be provided.

Conversations at the Crossroads: Intersectionality and the LGBT Community

October 24, 1:00 p.m., MTCC 516

Sponsor: International Center & GLBT Services

Join us for a panel discussion and conversation about the intersections of race, ethnicity, culture and other segments of LGBTQIA identity. Snacks will be provided.

(A)sexual Documentary Screening

October 27, 7:00 p.m., MTCC Auditorium

Sponsor: GLBT Services & Campus Life

Facing a sex obsessed culture, a mountain of stereotypes and misconceptions, and a lack of social or scientific research, asexuals - people who experience no sexual attraction - struggle to claim their identity. Through candid interviews and confessions from members of the asexual community, the documentary challenges existing notions of sexuality and provides a look into a marginalized group striving to have their voice heard.



Campus Life has a number of ticket sales coming up. Check them out here: tinyurl.com/IITticketSales



RSVP here <http://tinyurl.com/IITLeadership2014>

Leadership Summit 2014

October 25

Chicago teamwork Leadership potential gender diverse act discover learn evolve
Illinois Tech
broaden your horizons intersectionality Listen globalization
public speaking
change
time management
listen
multicultural group educate yourself leadership
think GLBTQ
Illinois professional development

Attend sessions on leadership, professional development, and skill building- all hosted right here on campus! Join us in the MTCC on October 25th from 10am-2pm.

Lunch will be provided. Open to all IIT, VanderCook, and Shimer graduate and undergraduate students.



The Bog is now open on Saturdays starting at 5:00 pm!