

TechNews

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OPINION 2
CAMPUS 2-3
A&E 4-5
SLIPSTICK 7
SPORTS 7

IIT kicks off 125th anniversary celebration in Galvin Library

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In 1890, Chicago minister Frank Gunsaulus and meatpacking industrialist Philip Danforth Armour teamed up to create the Armour Institute, which would later merge with Lewis Institute in 1940 to form Illinois Institute of Technology. This year, the university celebrates its 125th anniversary with many special events, beginning with a reception held in Galvin Library on the afternoon of Friday, January 23.

The Anniversary kick-off party occupied the upper level of Galvin Library with a

variety of events to celebrate IIT's past, present, and future. Many areas of the library offered different experiences to the wide variety of guests in attendance, which included students, staff, faculty, and alumni. As guests arrived, they were encouraged to stop by a table that offered free commemorative beverage cups to the first 700 attendees. University Archivist Catherine Buck and Assistant University Archivist Ralph Pugh offered tours of the historical artifacts kept in the archive collections of the library. The Kemper Room, located in the south half of the library, contained a variety of comparisons between IIT's past and present as well as some interesting facts about the university. The southwest corner of the upper level

was home to a photo booth with a variety of props that printed photo strips for visitors free of charge.

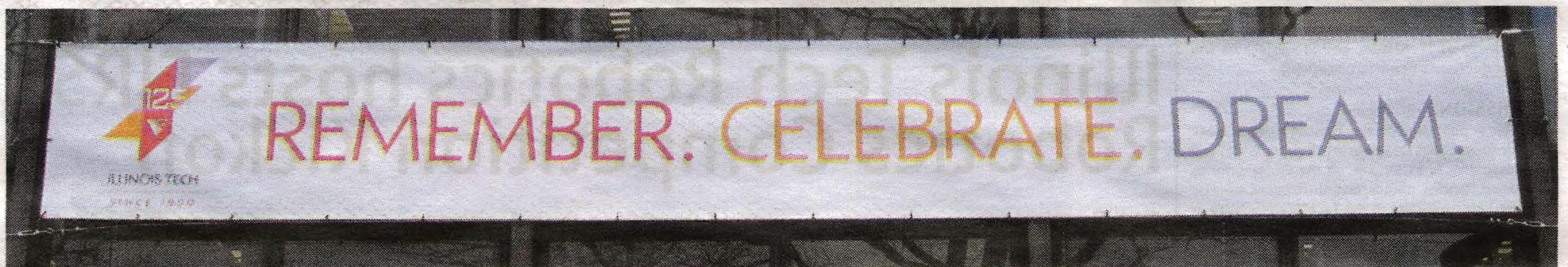
The celebration also featured contests, including a game where participants learned biographical facts about important people in IIT's history and had to guess who they were, a multiple-choice IIT trivia game, and a costume contest where participants dressed as their favorite decade.

Food was available throughout the event, provided by Sodexo catering. Food stations featured food especially relevant to IIT. A mashed potato bar, likely in the spirit of IIT Potato, accompanied three stations that represented geographical areas near to IIT: China-

town, U.S. Cellular Field, and Bronzeville.

A jazz combo from Vandercook College of Music was also present at the event to provide music and lead the crowd in singing happy birthday to the university.

Other events on the schedule for special recognition as a part of IIT's 125th anniversary celebration include a revival of the Amelia Earhart Kite Flying Contest, Alumni Awards, Commencement, Convocation, Homecoming, and an IIT Hall of Fame event, all to be held in the upcoming year. A full calendar of events is available online at web.iit.edu/125.



Photos by Kori Bowns