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**TUESDAY,
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2016**

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TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

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SGA Senate approves Lewis Student Union and discusses constitutional changes

Soren Spicknall
COPY EDITOR

With only 13 of the 21 active senators present, the Student Government Association (SGA)'s latest meeting in Stuart Building room 113 was noticeably more empty than usual. It was the night of the final World Series baseball game (November 2), and even one of the two prospective student organizations slated to present at SGA that night had decided not to come. The absence of nearly half of the current roster of senators, combined with eagerness of some present individuals to leave as quickly as possible, led to an uncharacteristically brief meeting, focused on the essential elements of each discussion held.

To start off, the senator for Lewis College, Trixie Weiner, presented the concept of an organization she had formulated with others during a psychology course and during a meeting with her college's dean. Called Lewis Student Union, the proposed student organization was intended to connect students

within Lewis College's various disciplines and work toward a broad variety of goals impacting their professional and social opportunities on campus. Weiner spoke of early-stage plans for study groups and career workshops, but put an emphasis on seeking open input from the organization's members about other ideas before allocating resources to any particular event. The group's overall goal would be to increase recognition for Lewis College's majors on campus, and in doing so it would seek to unite students within the college itself for collective activities. After private discussion without Weiner present, the Senate passed the organization by a vote of 11 in favor, 2 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

The "New Business" section of the meeting contained two agenda items: a brief discussion about the final recruitment push for remaining open Senate seats (which concluded on November 3), and a vote on whether there should be a Senate seat created to represent students participating in athletics at Illinois Tech, to be appointed by the Student-Athlete

Advisory Committee (SAAC), a body of varsity athletes that exists under Keating administration. The measure passed by a vote of 12 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, and that seat will become active upon creation of language providing for its existence in SGA's governing documents.

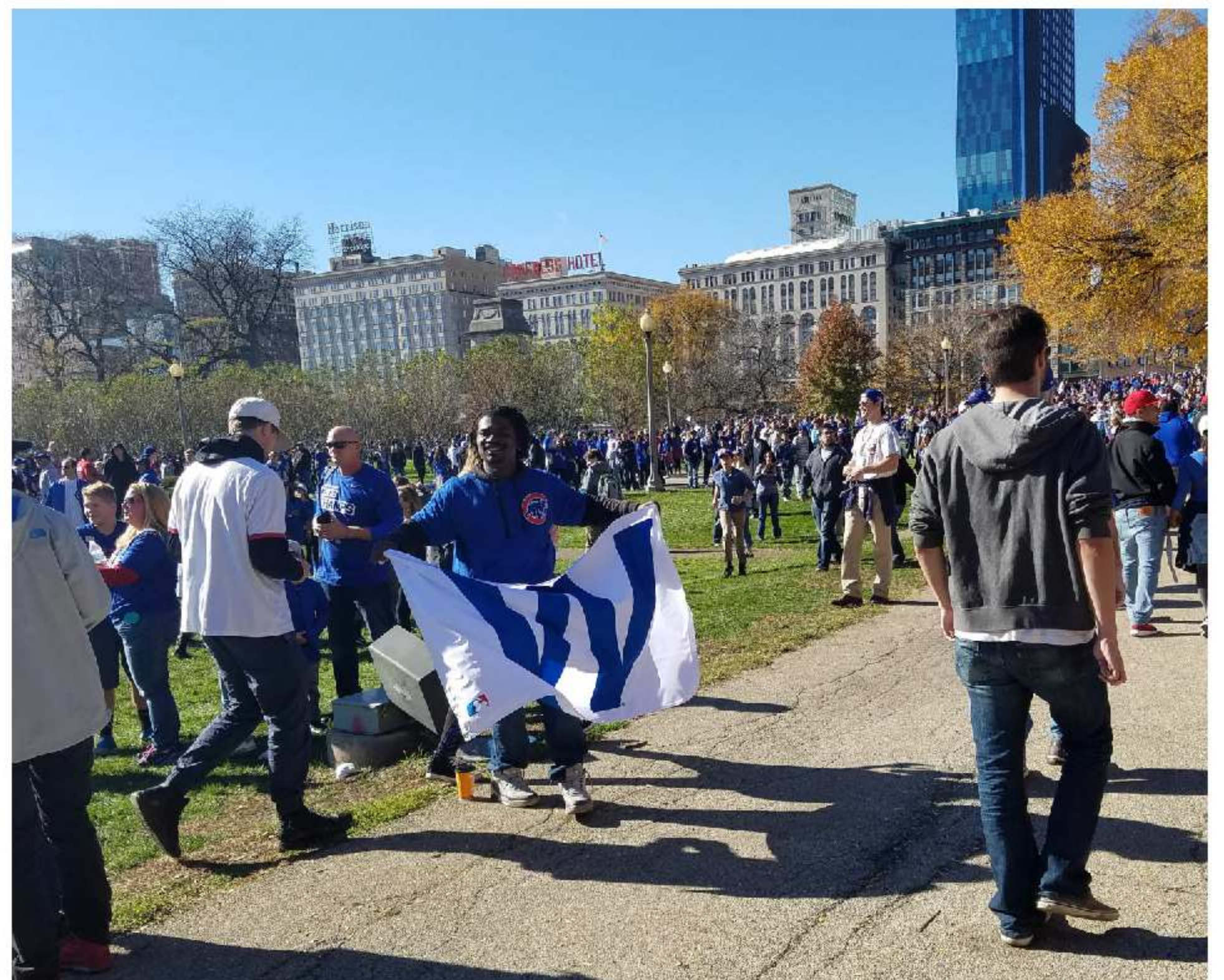
SGA's Executive Board members, with the exception of the absent Academic Affairs VP Akash Raina, each briefly presented updates on some of their projects or other work. Notably, Finance Board Chair Sung Min Choi Hong spoke about his ongoing efforts to fill vacant positions in the organization, with interested students encouraged to contact him at fb@iit.edu to ask about applications. Most importantly, though, Judicial Board Chair San Dinh introduced a proposed addition to the SGA bylaws which would allow Judicial Board to serve as a mediator for internal conflicts within student organizations on a voluntary basis. A student organization undergoing a major conflict or contested decision could theoretically take their issue to Judicial Board,

sign a document enabling Judicial Board's decision on the issue to be binding, and go through the hearing process to determine the best course of action. The amendment will be voted on during the next senate meeting on November 16.

Before the meeting's end, as a nod to the common complaint that Senate meetings take too much time for students to reasonably retain interest in, SGA Executive VP Sonia Kamdar introduced a proposal to hear new student organization applications only twice per semester rather than allowing applications to be heard at each Senate meeting on a rolling basis. This proposal's discussion was held for the next meeting, so students can reach out to their senators to give input on the idea if they wish.

SGA Senate meets bi-weekly on Wednesdays at 9:15 p.m. in Stuart Building room 113, with committee meetings held on alternating weeks in the MTCC colored rooms.

Millions gather downtown to celebrate historic Cubs World Series victory



Photos by Kori Bowns

TechNews

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CTBUH holds international awards on campus

Steven Milan Moreno
TECHNEWS WRITER

Many people outside of the School of Architecture are unaware that a very prestigious and highly revered institution, The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, calls the Mies Campus of Illinois Tech home sweet home. The council itself is the leading body in determining the official final heights of skyscrapers around the world. The world record holder of tallest building has been based on the council's official listings and measurements, which are conducted soon after a skyscraper reaches its maximum height during construction. The council also determines what is considered part of structure and whether it is accounted for in the final measurements. A recent famous example of this is the declaration by the council stating that the spire atop the new One World Trade Center in New York City is part of the building and not simply a removable antenna, making it officially taller than the Willis Tower in Chicago. Even though the Willis Tower has

more floors accessible to people, the council had the final say in the matter, removing the record of highest building in the western hemisphere from the world-famous structure that had held the title for over thirty years.

In addition to these momentous declarations of new record holders, the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat also holds an annual award ceremony and symposium here on Campus at Crown or Hermann Hall. Numerous architectural and engineering giants come this event held on campus, where each year the council names the Best Tall Building of the Year out of the winners of regional awards as they are categorized by the council: The Americas, Europe, Asia/Australia, and Africa/Middle East. For the building to qualify for these awards, they must meet certain criteria, including completion and occupation within the last year. This year's regional winners included a new residential building in New York City, the Shanghai Tower in China, a multi-use building in Cyprus, and a residential building in Lebanon. Judges from the council listened to presentations made by each of the groups behind the construction of

the winning projects and then determined the winner of the overall Best Tall Building of the Year based on this testimony (and audience input, to a lesser extent).

While it was certainly a difficult decision to make, the judges eventually came to an agreement and awarded the Shanghai Tower, currently the second tallest building the world, the best tall building of 2016. The award was based on the building's unique architectural design in addition to the sustainable means of construction and operation of the building, as well as the compatibility of the building with the surrounding area and structures. In addition to the Shanghai Tower, other awards of honor we also announced throughout the event, including the Performance Award (given to Taipei 101 in Taiwan for its outstanding present condition), the Ten-Year Award (given to Hearst Tower in New York for excellent condition and performance after a decade of operation), and the Urban Habitat Award (given to Wuhan Tiandi Site A in China for its urban design and sustainability).



Photos by Steven Milan Moreno

Career Services seeks peer career coaches from student body

Adam Denchfield
PEER CAREER COACH, CAREER SERVICES

Last spring, the Career Services office at Illinois Tech created a new "Peer Career Coaching" (PCC) program. Our purpose is to provide needed career advice to the greater student body by utilizing their own peers, since peer-to-peer communication is often very effective. The career advice includes resume building, cover letter writing, networking, LinkedIn tips, and advice on the job search process. PCCs work shifts throughout the week, and include evenings and weekends (to better accommodate students who can't come in during regular office hours). Additionally, our peer coaches can work across campus, in the library, in residence halls, and at the MTCC student center, which increases the reach of our Career Services office in Hermann Hall.

This program has proved effective. Our PCCs have reached hundreds of students in the past 10 months, a number that is steadily increasing as the program becomes more well-



Photos courtesy of Career Services

known on campus. However, in addition to directly helping our students, we find that our PCCs can inspire students to share their newfound career development knowledge

with other peers. The hope is that this model of exponential growth will continue, and our ultimate goal is that the majority of our Illinois Tech students are helping to provide effective

support for each other in a sustainable fashion. Peer career coaches are selected based on their involvement on-campus and their experience related to professional development. All PCCs have held internships or participated in research as undergraduates. Their experience and knowledge of the campus environment fuel their conversations and engagement with first-year and second-year students.

Students who need help writing a résumé, creating a LinkedIn profile, or beginning an internship search are encouraged to meet with a peer career coach. PCCs on a similar career path can offer highly relevant feedback and help students take the next step. To learn more about the peer career coaches, and to view their availability, visit their website at <http://web.iit.edu/career-services/career-coaches/peer-coaches>. You can also "like" their page on Facebook (@illinoistech.peercareercoach) to see what they're involved in.

Knapp Entrepreneurship Center encourages students to enter CLEANTECH University Prize competition

Margaret Murphy, Donna Rockin
KNAPP ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER

The U.S. Department of Energy, in conjunction with their regional partner, the Clean Energy Trust, a Chicago-based non-profit organization working with innovators to bring their ideas to life, is currently hosting a competition for the best green, clean energy solution. Whether you're writing an innovative business plan for your Master of Business Administration, working on promising research in the lab, or daydreaming of becoming the next Elon Musk by inventing a great new energy technology this competition may be for you. In order to participate, think of a green, clean energy solution that hasn't been

thought of before and enter the Clean Energy Trust's CLEANTECH University Prize (UP) competition. The winner will receive \$50,000 to help bring their innovation to life. But, the clock is ticking, you must enter by December 1, 2016 to qualify.

The Clean Energy Trust intends to maximize each Illinois Tech student applicant's access to quality mentorship, business development, and exposure. There is also the possible opportunity for top finalists to present their technologies for further funding at the 2017 CLEANTECH UP National Competition.

The application for the CLEANTECH University Prize (<http://cleanenergytrust.org/programs/cleantech-up/>) is free and only requires creating a login

through their YouNoodle application platform. There is no minimum or maximum team size, however teams must consist of at least half actively enrolled undergraduate, graduate, or PhD students. Relevant team or company sectors include, but are not limited to: advanced transportation, bioenergy, efficiency technologies, energy storage, internet of things/smart cities, microgrids/smart grids, renewable energy, and water-energy nexus. Team or company product stages include, but are not limited to, idea/concept, prototype, pilot, and commercialization. In 2016, over \$1 million in prizes and seed-stage funding was awarded at the 8 regional competitions to support emerging CLEANTECH innovators and entrepreneurs. The mission of the

CLEANTECH UP competition is to empower the next generation of clean energy innovators and entrepreneurs. By investing in and supporting students today, we are ensuring a cleaner, more sustainable tomorrow.

With the December 1st deadline fast approaching, the Knapp Entrepreneurship Center, IIT Wanger Institute for Sustainable Energy Research, the Clean Energy Trust, and the US Department of Energy all want Illinois Tech students to enter and win this year's competition. If you need assistance or have questions about the CLEANTECH UP competition, please contact Margaret Murphy at murphym@iit.edu or Donna Rockin at drockin@iit.edu.

Students Speak Survey extended for a week, seeking more student input

The Center for Research and Service

Your fellow Illinois Tech students are once again looking for your input in discovering how we can improve the quality of student's experiences with various service areas and departments here at Illinois Tech. The Students Speak program aligns with the President's and Provost's commitment to advancing student satisfaction and the quality of services provided to students. The Students Speak survey has been extended another week and will close on Monday November 14.

Having identified areas within the university services that are important to students and have not been surveyed in at least two years, the survey has been developed to focus on each of those key areas and the committee asks that students provide feedback so that they can gauge what the university is doing right, what needs improvement, etc. The committee will present the results from the Students Speak survey to the President and

Provost in January and will also give feedback to the departments and service areas included on the survey. Student committee members also submit specific recommendations on how administrators can make the necessary changes needed to increase student satisfaction with their offices' services. These recommendations will stem from the survey findings collected and from additional input from members of various student organizations.

The Students Speak committee is supported by Dr. George Langlois, the Executive Director for the Center of Research and Service (part of the Lewis College of Human Sciences) and the Illinois Tech Leadership Academy. For those that do not know him, Dr. Langlois is an Industrial / Organizational psychologist whose office also conducts the annual faculty survey and provides consultation to numerous high profile clients outside of Illinois Tech. His knowledge and expertise in survey design and analysis serves as a valuable asset to the committee. The Students Speak project is especially important to Dr. Langlois, as he

received his PhD here at Illinois Tech and the project allows him and his office to give back to the university by helping to make students' experiences here the best that it can be.

The committee has the manpower, the determination, and the contacts, but they need one more crucial piece in order for this survey to make a difference - YOU! They need as many students as possible to provide feedback on the various student services in order for to really gauge what has been working well for students and what needs improvement. Traditionally, the number of student responses has been close to half the total student body and the goal this year is to get an even larger proportion of students to participate. A couple minutes of your time is all it takes to help drive positive change by ensuring that your voice is heard when the committee presents their findings to the President and Provost.

As an added incentive for participating in the survey there will also be a raffle drawing that any participating students will be entered in, where they will have the

chance to win one of several assortment of prizes including: \$20 gift cards, Illinois Tech apparel, and Illinois Tech coffee mugs and thermos cups! This is your chance to influence positive change for all Illinois Tech students and to have your opinions heard by the university's leadership and senior administrators. Again, the Students Speak Survey is focused on you, the student and this is your chance to help make a positive, lasting impact for current and future Illinois Tech students!

The survey has been extended one more week, so please take this extra time to complete it. Survey reminders will continue to be sent to students who have not yet completed it, but in case you miss it, you can simply go to (http://www.iit.edu/students_speak) and complete the survey there, or stop by the kiosk that will be set up on the bridge in MTCC during lunch hour. Take the survey and let your voice be heard - it only takes a few minutes of your time to make a difference at Illinois Tech!

Illinois Tech celebrates successful close of Fueling Innovation Campaign

Six years, more than \$250 million raised and the countless lives impacted.

On August 31, 2016 Illinois Tech officially closed Fueling Innovation: The Campaign for

IIT. The university exceeded the \$250 million goal by raising \$250,242,380 from more than

15,000 donor, and they celebrated on campus on October 27-28, 2016.



Photos courtesy of the Office of Institutional Advancement

International Students Feature: India

Alexandra Detweiler
OCOPY EDITOR

This week, four international students from India volunteered to be interviewed about the differences between their home country and the United States. Akshata Kerur, a second year graduate student studying computer science, is from a state in southwest India called Karnataka. Greshma Naresh, a second year graduate student studying information technology and management (ITM), is from Andhra Pradesh, a state on India's southeastern coast. Shreya Jha, a fourth year undergraduate student studying psychology and architecture, is from West Bengal, a state in eastern India near Bangladesh's border. Raja Patel, a third year undergraduate student studying aerospace engineering, is from Gujarat, India's westernmost state.

One thing that these students noticed was different from home was the absence of widespread celebration for major holidays. According to Naresh, there is a festival or celebration "almost every month. Every festival there's a set of things we do; it's so much fun." Of these festivals, the most notable were Dussehra and Diwali. Naresh explained that for each festival, "every state has their specific dance form," such as Kuchipudi in Andhra Pradesh and Garba in Gujarat. "Each hand movement represents something, has a meaning. Everybody has specific steps that they do together." According to Kerur, during

Diwali, it is common to bake desserts or sweets and share them with your community. "Whatever special ingredient you make that day," Kerur said, "you give it to the neighbors." Kerur said that one common dessert made was payasam, which was "sort of like pudding." Jha mentioned a dish called halwa, which Kerur described as "kind of mushy like oatmeal a little bit," yet Jha added that it "looks like oatmeal, but doesn't taste like it." Patel said he missed ghughra, which consisted of a crispy crust and a sweet stuffing. When Patel pulled up a picture on his cell phone, Kerur was surprised because she recognized the dish but had a different name for it: karjikai. According to Kerur, this can happen very frequently due to the fact that within even a single state, there are multiple languages used. Kerur explained that there was a common saying in India that "every six miles you go, you see a different culture."

These students noticed that the way Americans address people is different from what they were used to. Back in India, Kerur said, it was expected of you to call adults "ma'am" or "sir," yet that was much less common here. Kerur participated in TEDxDIT in the past, and when meeting with the founder Amy Lee Segami, she recalled how strange she found it that Segami insisted "don't call me ma'am, call me by my first name." People had trouble calling her by her first name. They were so uncomfortable," Kerur explained that she even addressed her brother with a word for "brother," and didn't use his name. When

she goes to a friend's place, even when they're not related to her, it is polite to call the friend's parents "uncle" and "aunt."

One of the things Jha missed the most was the weather. "I don't dislike the winter," she said, "but I just miss the monsoon season. Because it's just like, the sky is perfect. The sky is a perfect shade of grey. It's always drizzling." Kerur remembered that in India, if the temperature was in the 60s, "people will bring their blankets and shawls and will start freaking out." Even if it was in the 70s, she went on, people would still think it was cold. "70s here is like celebration," Naresh said, to which Kerur added, "barbecue season!"

In terms of academics, Kerur said that "internships are not as it is here." Kerur received her undergraduate degree in India and thought that "everybody does an internship here. But in India, if you don't do an internship, it's still okay." Kerur also thought that schooling here was more interactive than it was in India. In her words, in India, the professor "comes in, teaches, give you an assignment and leaves." Here, she explained, you have office hours and can talk with the professor one on one. School in India is also "not as flexible as it is here," Kerur said. She explained that once you chose a major in India, you had a set schedule of classes you needed to take with no decisions left to the student. Additionally, Naresh mentioned, "here, you have more options about what you want to study." Jha said that "here, you can mix and match majors. There is more control over

where I want to go and what I want to do. It feels as if I have control over my life." Patel thought that the way in which students and professors interacted was very different. Patel was used to having to stand up to answer the professor's questions. In addition, he said, "when you go to the class, you ask permission to go into the class. 'Sir, may I come in?'" Patel also explained that food was not allowed in classrooms back where he was from. Naresh agreed with Patel, describing how people in India would quickly eat when the professor's back was turned when they were hungry.

When asked what he missed most about his home, Patel immediately answered the food. "Particularly my region, the food would be spicy," he said, "you don't get spicy food here." Kerur said she missed the street food in India. "In India, food's all about street food, you all sit together in a group. Any hangout would start with eating, then probably a movie." Kerur also remarked upon the fact that all the food in America, it seemed, had cheese in it. Naresh agreed with her. "I like cheese," Naresh said, "but in anything? No." In addition, Naresh thought that it was more difficult for vegetarians here, that the diet lacks the variety of options that India has. Jha thought that "over here, people usually have pizza all the time. I like pizza, but there's just too much of it. After a certain period of time, it just gets irritating."

Next week, look for an International Students Feature on Poland!

UNICEF caps off month of events and fundraising for Bangladesh

Divya Soopal
TECHNEWS WRITER

Illinois Tech's chapter of United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) has dedicated the month of October to trick-or-treat (TOT). UNICEF actually gives a little twist to the definition of TOT. Instead of candies, volunteers from this organization collected money, an idea that originated from UNICEF 70 years and now. The orange trick-or-treat boxes, placed on various locations in campus, also harmonized with the Halloween spirit.

Erica Cusmariov, the co-chair of education committee, explained about how Bangladesh necessitated aid. She highlighted

how Bangladesh has the worst records for human and child trafficking. For the entire month of October, volunteers tabled on the MTCC bridge and informed hawks about this recurring issue.

At the end of September, Whitney Cross from UNICEF Chicago headquarters held a special talk with our volunteers. She emphasized how human trafficking is an unacceptable form of modern-day slavery that violates human rights as stipulated in the United Nations (UN) human rights charter. It is highly upsetting how Bangladeshi are objectified, forced into bonded labor, and exploited sexually by fraudulent coercions. Padlocked and prison-barred, children are transited from the frontier of Bangladesh to brothels.

UNICEF aims to protect these children's rights by establishing protective mechanisms against abuse exploitation and violence. Money collected from this event will be a contribution that hawks made together to cripple human and child trafficking.

Quick facts about Bangladesh:

Officially known as the People's Republic of Bangladesh, it has a population density of almost 3000 people per mile. People from Bangladesh are commonly referred to as Bangladeshi. A striking fact about this country is that it was the only one in history that fought for its mother language: Bengali/Bangla.

Bangladesh had the same fate as India. After separating from the British regime, India and Bangladesh became distinct nations. Owing to this separation, Bangladesh has a

rich cultural background. All festivals of all religions are celebrated with great enthusiasm and joy.

As a developing nation, with per capita income of just about \$1300 per year, Bangladesh has a feeble economy and standard of living. From 1996 to 2008, an annual growth rate of 5-6% was registered. However, over 30% of Bangladeshi live in absolute poverty today.

Geographically speaking, Bangladesh is located in one of the most disaster-prone areas of the world. In the wake of frequent cyclones and floods, thousands were killed and eventually the economic growth was impeded for decades.



Photos by Divya Soopal

SGA taking efforts to launch new events committee

Ethan Castro

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER

As was previously mentioned in the first official Illinois Tech Student Government Association (SGA) articles of this semester, one of the newest additions to the governing body is an Events Committee which hopes to establish regular events, both casual and professional, and push SGA as a visible, available, and approachable organization. Events such as the President and Provost Forum or SGA's regular Town Hall discussions

with campus administrative bodies (such as the Office of Technology Support or Illinois Tech Dining Services) would fall under the jurisdiction and logistics of this Events Committee. This committee is still looking for a chair to lead it, but SGA President Hamze Leo Sukkar is confident that the establishment of this committee, alongside the ongoing projects of SGA's other committees, will help to break the illusion of SGA as a secretive and inaccessible organization.

More specifically, SGA's executive board has been hard at work in filling the open position of Events Chair. Although the

process is (for now) mainly an internal process by SGA's president and vice president, some details have been shared on the progress of this endeavor. A mass email to all students recruiting for volunteers sent by Sukkar generated a satisfactory amount of interested responses and a pool of applicants for the Events Chair has been formulated. Sukkar is in personal contact with each of these applicants and hopes that "they should be on board by next senate, where we should also be voting in our new Events Chair." The next senate hearing will be on November 16 at 9:15 p.m. in Stuart Building room 113. It is here that Sukkar

hopes to see the new Events Committee finally fleshed out completely.

Although perhaps a bit late into the semester, having an established and staffed Events Committee will likely prove a valuable asset to SGA moving forward, as the sheer logistics of creating large-scale events can now be specially delegated to a dedicated committee. The end goal will be to have a much more efficient and prolific source of regular SGA events to help give the organization a more visible face on the Illinois Tech campus that is much more integrated into the lives of students.

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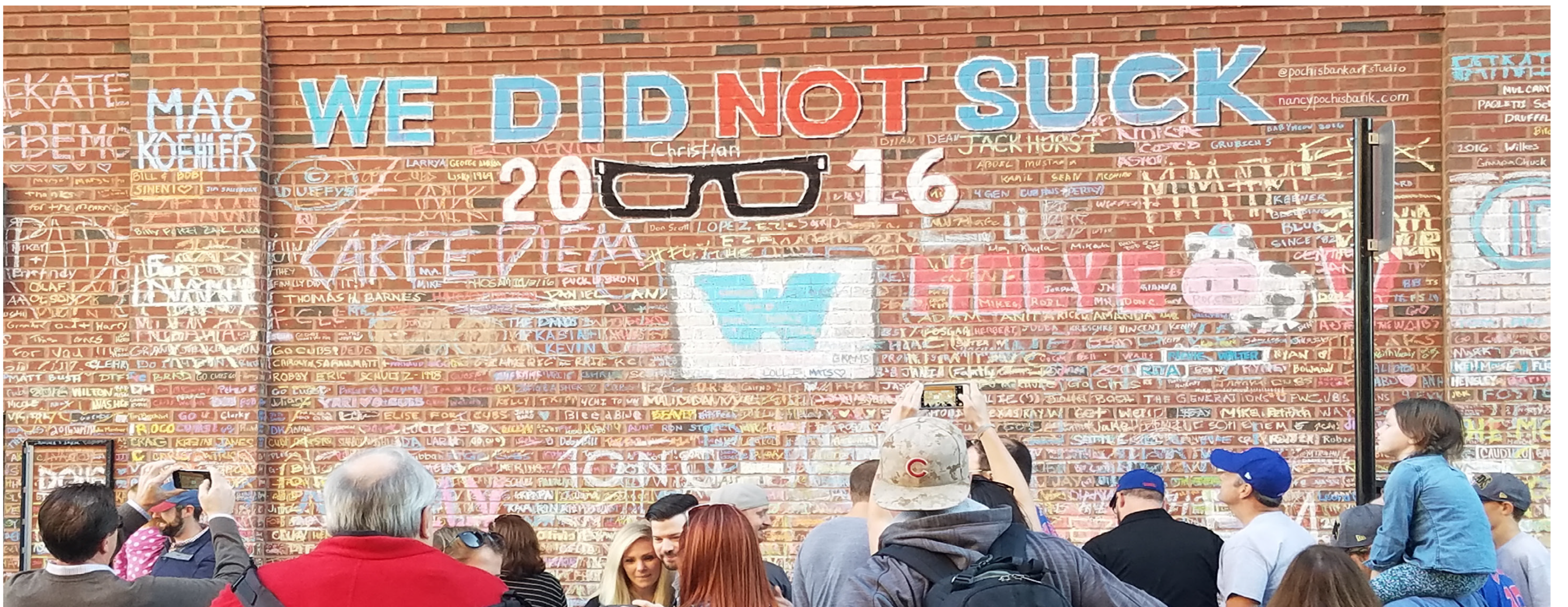
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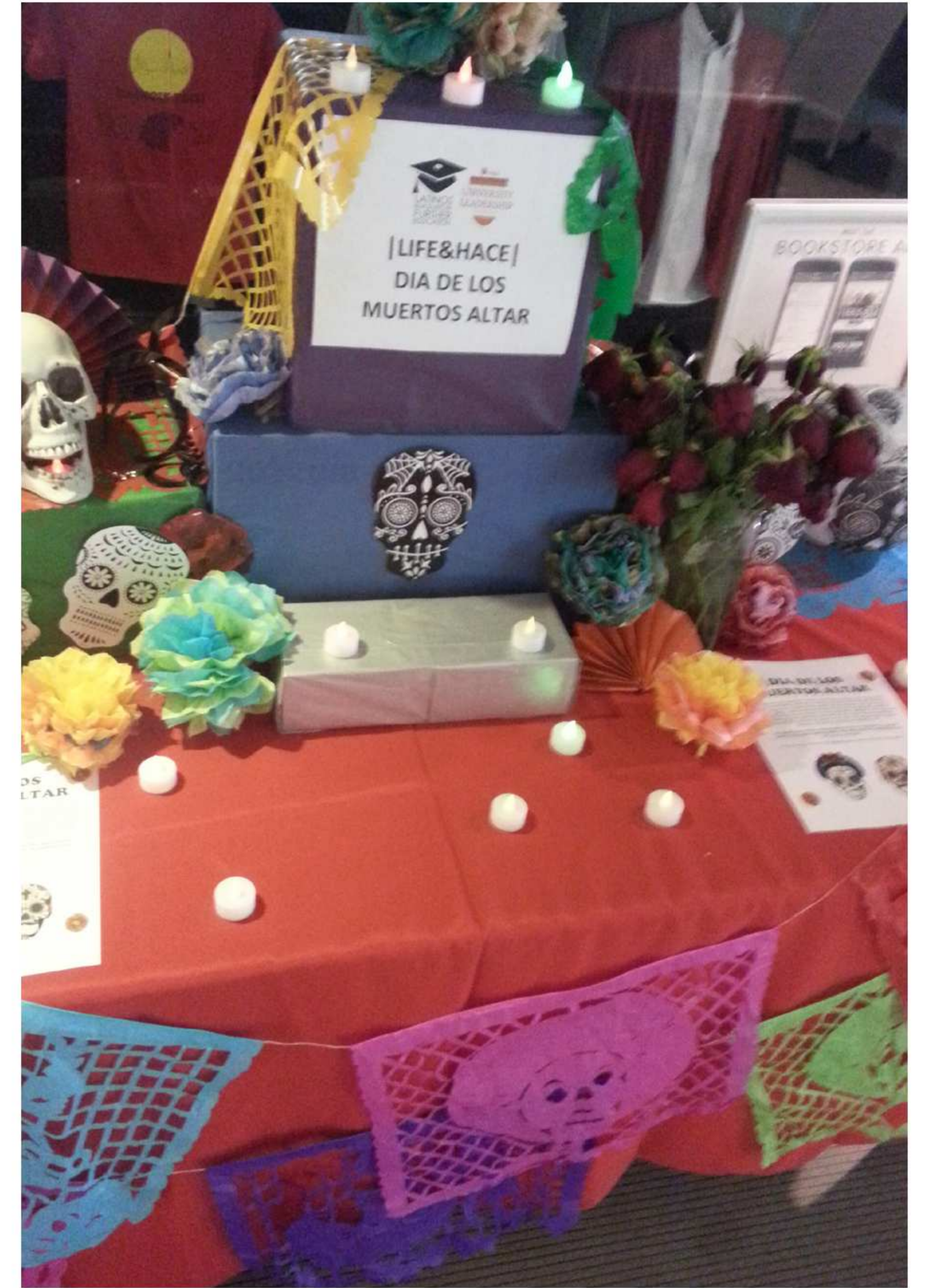
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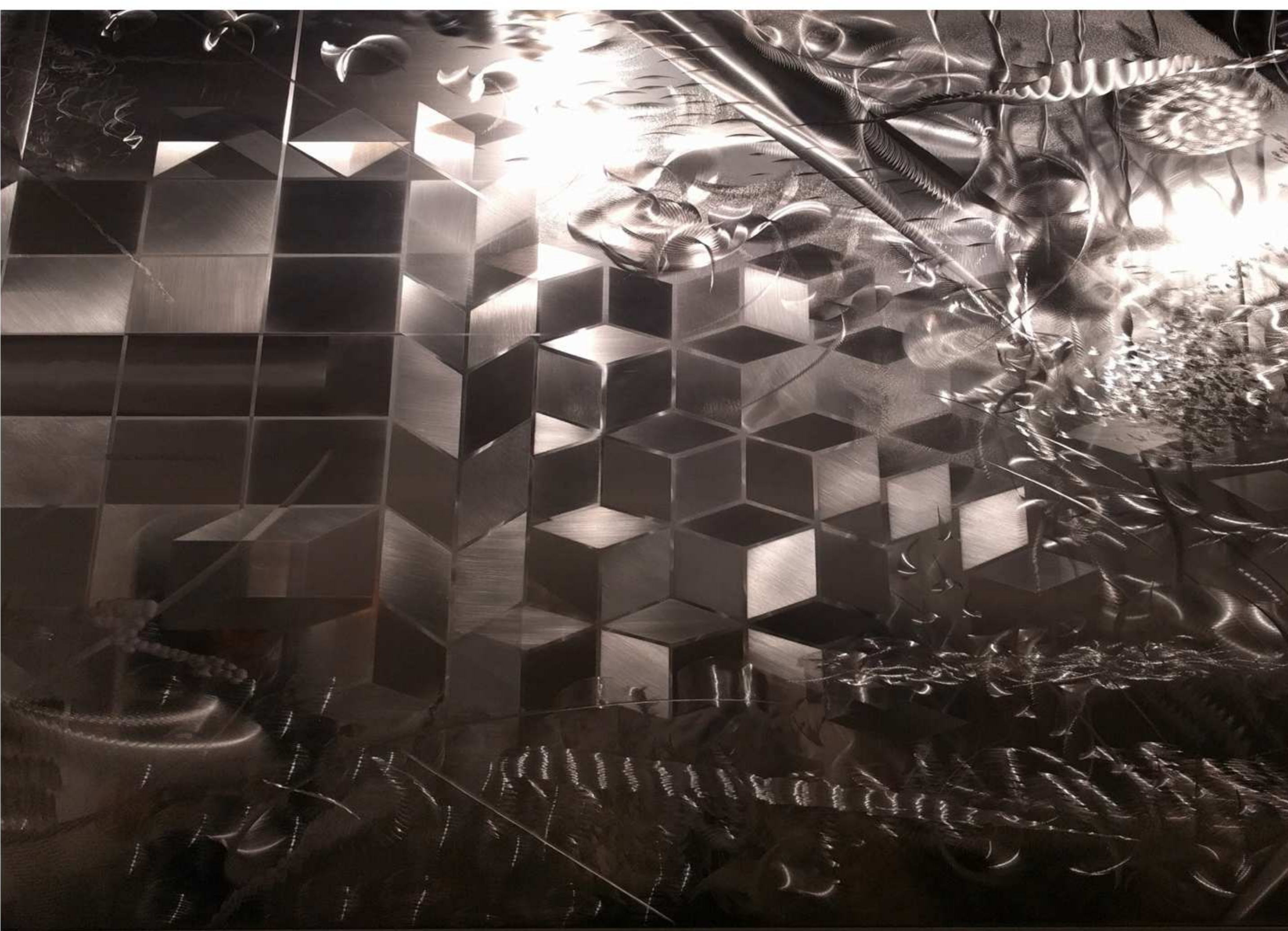
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LIFE & HACE displays altar for Día de los Muertos



Photos by Alexandra Detweiler

SOFA Exhibition at Navy Pier includes student-designed pavilions



Photos by Anoop Sundararajan

Music Review: OutRun Soundtrack Comes to Vinyl

David Sobel
COPY EDITOR

Let me begin with a brief recounting. On Saturday, November 5, after a doorbell ring and a trip to the front door, I found myself in possession of an order I'd made: a vinyl pressing of the original soundtrack of "OutRun." With that in mind, here's my review of "OutRun" on vinyl, produced by Data Discs, a small, recently founded company located in the U.K. specializing in being "purveyors of quality game soundtracks on glorious vinyl."

I'll start with the visual, because Data Discs has a wonderful presentation alongside all (currently) seven of their soundtrack pressings. The record jacket itself has a "window" in the center, looking similar to one of those 3D pop-up books, which allows for the record owner to customize the look. There are two two-sided inserts that come with the record, each featuring a scenic view from the game, along with a note from the original composer of "OutRun"'s soundtrack, Hiroshi "Hiro" Kawaguchi, noting his excitement to see this vinyl pressing happen in 2015. Depending on when you placed an order for this vinyl release, you had a limited opportunity to receive the version pictured in this article. Sadly, I was unaware of Data Discs before I knew of the option. That said, I ended up purchasing the mint green edition, which mostly sufficed, still looking quite nice with the purple and white record label in the center.

So how's it sound?

The first thing I noticed was what we've come to expect of vinyl: every sound was so defined and on point, creating an amazing experience. Music from the Genesis era was itself analog, being played through a



Photo courtesy SEGA

16-bit MIDI, so soundtracks from the era had a very exact sound to begin with. Combine that with the analog sound of vinyl, and you've got yourself in for a treat. Video game fan or not, this particular experience in itself can be appreciated by anyone. As far as the track list goes, it's short but sweet, each track being five to six minutes long:

Side A

Magical Sound Shower

Passing Breeze

Camino a Mi Amor

Anyone who had the chance to read my previous article, a retro review of the "OutRun" game, will be at least somewhat familiar with the songs on side A, along with "Step on Beat" on side B. The last two songs of side B, featured in the 3DS rerelease of "OutRun", I had not previously heard before, and the new experience was very welcome. They both sound like tracks that could have been in the original release, although "Camino a Mi Amor" sounds a lot more original in my opinion. If you're interested in hearing these tracks before or just without ordering the album, you can easily look them up on YouTube.

DATA006: "OutRun" comes out swinging before you even drop the needle, providing an amazing visual accompaniment to an equally amazing vinyl pressing quality. I'm no record reviewer, but taking these two factors into account, I have no qualms with issuing a solid 9/10 to the overall presentation of this album. However, I have to rate the cost at about 6/10, because £30 (British pounds) converts to approximately \$40, which made my wallet cry just a little bit.

If you're interested in investing in a video game soundtrack on vinyl like this one, take a look at data-discs.com, which currently provides seven soundtracks, with an eighth and ninth release coming soon.

Splash Wave

Last Wave

Side B

Step on Beat

Cruising Line



Reviews:

Jim James Turns from Mystic to Skeptic on "Eternally Even", his second solo LP

Soren Spicknall
WIIT STATION MANAGER

In more ways than one, the roots of the newest solo album from My Morning Jacket frontman Jim James can be traced back to 2008. That year, his pioneering southern psych rock band released their most adventurous album to date, the R&B-influenced "Evil Urges". Having just found broad international acclaim with their previous album, the instant indie rock classic "Z", the band debuted "Evil Urges" to a public that perhaps wasn't quite ready for such a dramatic shift in style. 2011's follow-up, "Circuital", was considered an intentional return to form for My Morning Jacket, but James's interest in exploring grooves outside the broad spectrum of rock was privately still strong.

In early 2013, the deeply spiritual singer recorded his first full-length solo album, "Regions of Light and Sound of God", a reflection both of a personal philosophy

drawing from multiple religions and a musical atmosphere at the time that was very receptive to neo-hippie exultation (see: Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros, The Mowgli's, and others who rose to prominence in that period). Barack Obama had recently been elected for a second term, the specter of the Tea Party seemed to be diminishing, and the sudden rise of the Islamic State was yet to come. While these may seem to be incongruous topics, they hold great relevance in an examination of James's work, which has responded clearly to his mindset over the last decade and a half of professional performance. "Regions of Light and Sound of God" was a 40-minute exploration of pseudo-religious feelings and ruminations on the potential of mankind, instrumented in an ethereal fashion to match.

Three years on, the social climate of the United States is very different. As a result, the latest solo album from James is very different as well. "Eternally Even", which hit stores on Friday, November 4, is more

immediate and vital than the album which preceded it both in music and in lyrics. Analog synths, clean bass guitar tones, and intimately rendered drums wash over melodies which confront more earthly subject matter than James's first solo LP, touching on topics of disillusionment and division among mankind. The album never turns explicitly cynical (even the tellingly titled "Same Old Lie", perhaps James's most overtly political track to date, ends with the optimistic lines "they say we can't live together but we know that's a lie / 'cause we know it in our heart we can make it if we try"), but it presents a grittier, more grounded vision of human relationships than on "Regions of Light and Sound of God".

In addition to marking a shift in emotional tone, "Eternally Even" more clearly demonstrates James's ongoing infatuation with R&B, soul, and blues than anything since "Evil Urges". The majority of the compositions on the album are danceable in the slow, smooth way that evokes scenes of smoke-filled lounges

in the velvet-cushioned '70s. The psychedelic synth and drum production, on the other hand, is reminiscent of Tame Impala and even has echoes of My Morning Jacket themselves, blending Memphis and California without coming off as forced. Where 2008's critically controversial "Evil Urges" was an experiment in stadium-size neo-soul, "Eternally Even" is a measured cutaway of a more traditional, smaller-scale sound. James keeps his voice low and rumbling, rarely reaching his upper register, which is perhaps the only major shared element that this release has with James's earlier solo work. It's territory at once novel and familiar for the singer, who has the financial comfort to take risks and explore his interests to their fullest extent. And though "Eternally Even" won't likely appear on any year-end lists, it's a strong album and a clear demonstration of James's current picture of the world. 6.7/10

Up-and-coming Scottish band Honeyblood plays intimate show at Subterranean

Liza McQueney
WIIT MUSIC DIRECTOR

Although the crowd gave them little to work with, Scottish duo Honeyblood put on a formidable performance at Chicago's Subterranean last week.

Opener Jay Som, a slowcore band from San Francisco, started the show on a reflective note. Jay Som is the musical pseudonym of multi-instrumentalist and songwriter Melina Duterte, who has supported artists such as Mitski and Peter Bjorn and John. Their set closed with "I Think You're

Alright", a lengthy jam rife with fuzzy guitars. It was a beautiful and emotionally captivating performance, and displayed Jay Som's live prowess.

The show happened to coincide with the North American release of Honeyblood's latest album, "Babes Never Die." The album has been receiving positive reviews from many major media outlets including NME, The Guardian, and Line of Best Fit. The pair worked their way through all of "Babes Never Die," as well as some older tracks from their 2014 self-titled debut. Truly impressive was the amount of sound produced from only

having two musicians on stage: their sound was full and developed and left no impression that another musician was needed. The small audience could have made for an awkward and unenjoyable show, but Honeyblood's strong performance filled in the gaps and their on-stage banter warmed up the sparse crowd and created a lighthearted, familiar atmosphere. Topics covered included Belle and Sebastian's drinking habits (the duo toured with the famed fellow Scottish indie rockers in 2015), their day in Chicago, and the names for all of the extra electronic noises that made it onto the new album (Sebastian). A dark spot on an otherwise

stellar show came from a boisterously drunk super-fan who insisted on heckling the band between each song. Other audience members were visibly embarrassed by the fan's behavior, and Subterranean is a small enough venue that the yelling could hardly be ignored, but they handled the situation with grace and humor and didn't let it affect the quality of the show they were playing. With the release of their latest album, Honeyblood continues to expand their sound and live shows, and hopefully this will result in gigs with fuller audiences and more enthusiasm for the work they are doing onstage..



Photos by Liza McQueney

Caption Contest

Caption this photo found in the Technews archives. Top responses will be posted in next week's issue along with a new photo to caption!

Respond to our Facebook post or email editor@technewsit.com with responses.



Thin Film

The taste is so bitter but that makes it worth the while
As if it's gonna kill me there is something in the bile

It makes me smile
I feel the suffering of the sound
It whispers from the supernatural
And draws my freedom down

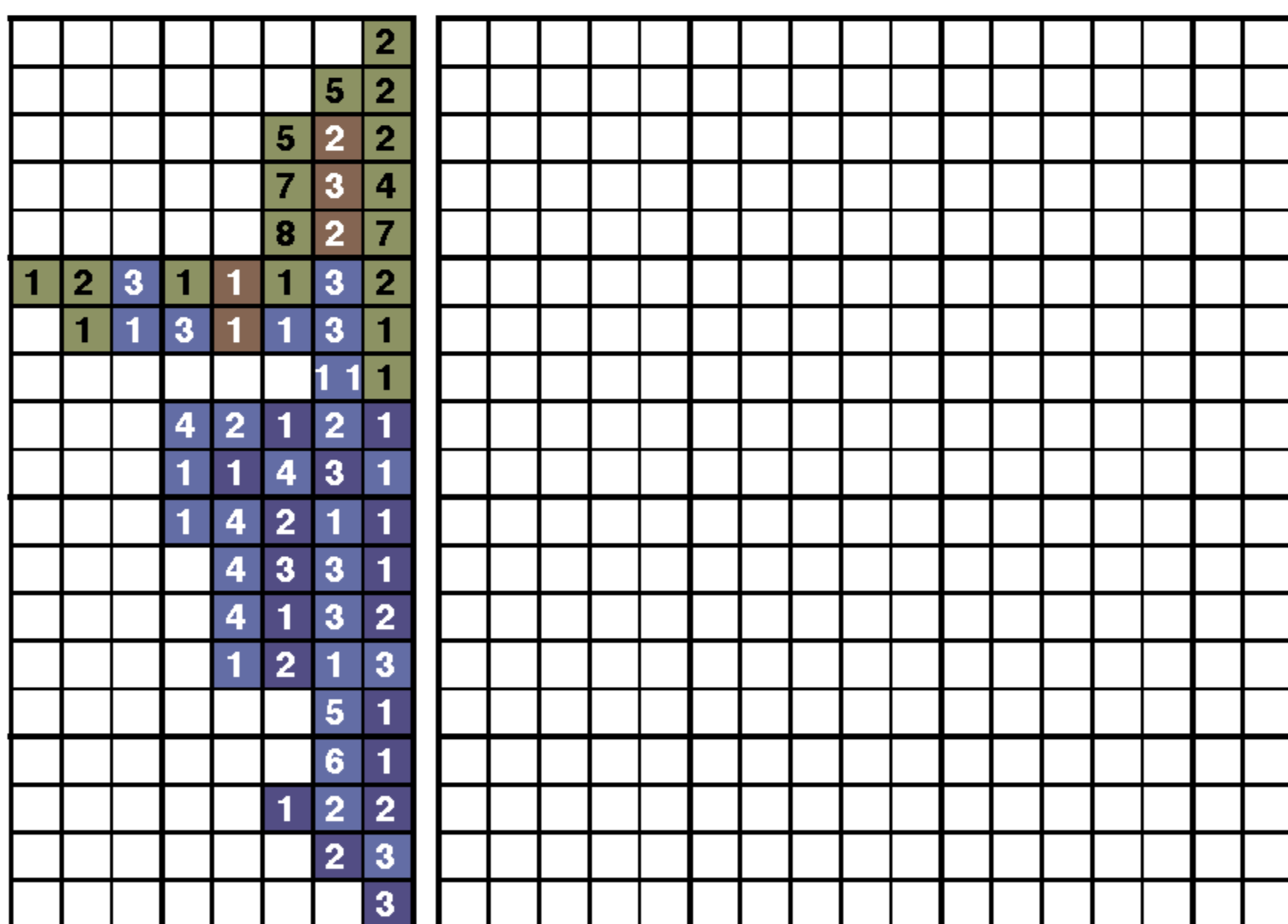
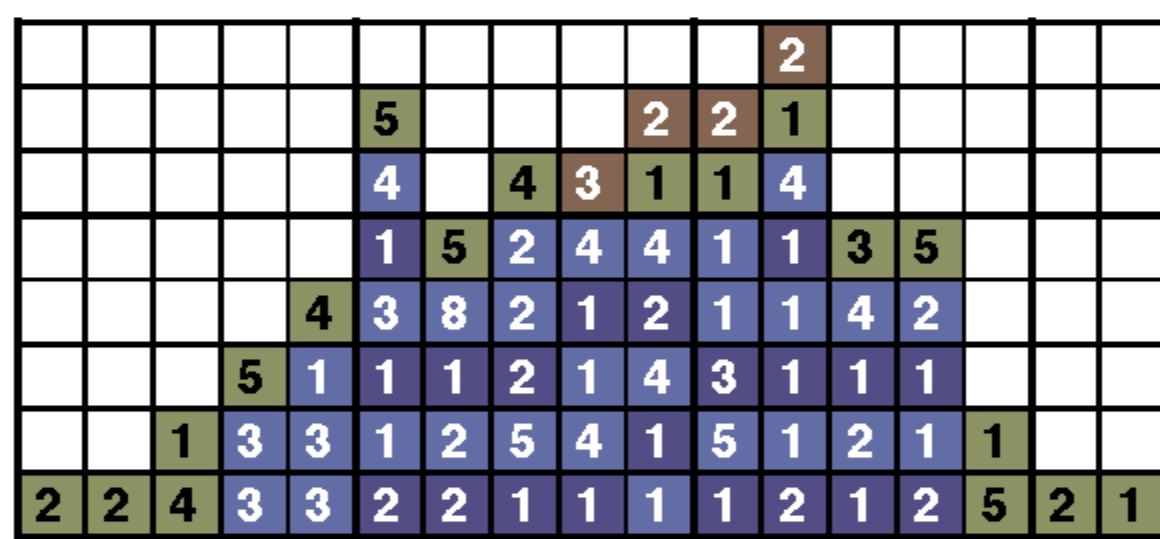
I watch the thin film forms between my soul
And what I fail to control
A tissue paper membrane
That only comprehension can't get through
In reality your nothing but reality
And that random pointless feeling is all inside of you

I see one within the lonely chambers of my intuition
Leading the other's function
And my influenced decision
Creates such an overwhelming doubt and suspicion
In my submissive little mind that can't even make the first
incision

As if I always saw it
But was never bold enough to perceive
As if I always knew it
But I was too hopeful to believe

- Reno Fera-Ducatt

NANOGRAMS



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Basic Rules

1. Each clue indicates a group of contiguous squares of like color.



2. Between each group there is at least one empty square.



3. The clues are already in the correct sequence.



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4			2			7	3	
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	7		5					1
	1						4	
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			6		1			
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8		3	4					9
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数独

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."



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Obama Sweeps to Historic Victory

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By JONATHAN WEISMAN
AND LAURA MECKLER

Obama

WASHINGTON—Sen. Barack