

Illinois Tech Cycling Team presents Bog Sprints

By Ryan Hynes
OPINION EDITOR

The Illinois Tech Cycling Team is hosting the second annual Bog Sprints Friday, December 2nd at 7:00 PM. The sprints consist of two bikes on computrainers, which hold the bikes in place and allow the riders to simulate a race. The trainers are linked to computer software that calculates the speed of each rider and projects a virtual image of the racers onto a screen.

The races are brief, lasting no longer than 30 seconds, and the winner of the race will move on to the next round of the competition.

Illinois Tech Cycling's sponsors have provided the team with several prizes to award to the winners of the sprints.

The Illinois Tech Cycling Team is a club sport, but competes in the Midwest Collegiate Cycling Conference against several big name schools including Michigan, Michigan St., Notre Dame, Ohio State, and Purdue to name a few. The Illinois Tech Cycling Team has experienced a lot of growth over the past few years, and is gearing up for another promising season.

Come blow off some steam before finals and meet the Illinois Tech Cycling Team for a night of fun and friendly competition. 7:00 PM, Friday, December 2nd at the Bog.



Image courtesy of Ryan Hynes

ESW impacts campus with events

By Harshita Iyer
TECHNEWS WRITER

The semester is coming to a close soon, and with finals around the corner, things are hectic and stressful. It has been a packed semester, with multitudes of student organizations keeping students busy (as if course loads didn't do that job well enough). One such student organization was ganGreen, IIT's campus sustainability organization, which is going through a transition phase to join Engineers for a Sustainable World (ESW). With ganGreen joining a national organization and becoming one of its chapters, ganGreen will officially be renamed ESW, it will have resources outside of IIT.

The organization made its first ripple

of the semester with Sustainability Week, in October, which was a week-long series of campus events: a farmer's market, a green resource and career fair, movie screenings, and speaker events. (Acting upon the response received from the IIT student body, ESW will be organizing another one next semester.) Earlier this month, they organized a speaker event with the Climate Reality Project, an organization headed by former Vice President Al Gore.

The event showcased various presentations made to show governments how much people are interested and concerned about climate change. There was also a tour of "The Greenest House in Chicago," the Helenowski Residence, this past Saturday. The LEED Platinum house is "net-zero," producing no energy waste.

Students Speak survey results (continued from page 1)

policy and procedural issues such as meal plan requirements and guest sign-in.

For the CMC, which actually showed an increase in four percentage points in satisfaction from the previous year, students mainly pointed out aspects such as a lack in the availability of job opportunities and employers, a need for increased staff assistance, better service and opportunities for international students and those with diverse majors as areas in need of improvement.

According to the students, Public Safety's main flaws include rude or uncaring behavior from officers, slow response time, lack of patrols, visibility and monitoring, and mediocre escort services and availability.

The most improved campus department was the Office of Financial Aid. In comparison to past years, this department has gained strides in student satisfaction, especially involving student respect and accuracy of information. The least improved campus departments were Student Life and Public Safety, which experienced consistent declines in student satisfaction.

New to the Students Speak survey this year was a section on capital priorities, which gave students the opportunity to choose where

they would like to see the university's capital investments be applied. The outcome of this survey item was the indication by most students that improved classrooms, labs, and studios should be the top capital priority, followed by a new or improved indoor recreational and athletic facility.

So, what is the next step? In order for this survey to be effective, an in-depth analysis of the results, coupled with departmental responsiveness and the implementation of student advisory groups to work alongside those departments in need of improvement, will be crucial. Initially, an executive summary of the results will be presented to President Anderson and Provost Cramb on Monday, November 21. A larger report will then be carried out at the Students Speak Summit on January 20, during which the importance of the Students Speak process will be conveyed, dialogue will be facilitated amongst students and university leadership, and the president and provost will talk about expectations and guidelines for departmental action planning, along with a strategy for following up on action plans. Definitely expect more articles regarding the Students Speak and its implications coming your way next semester.

Eid Ul Adha celebration @IIT

By Tanim Taher
TECHNEWS WRITER

On Saturday November 12, the Muslim Students Association (MSA) and the Pakistani Students Association (PSA) hosted the annual Eid Ul Adha party at IIT. Eid Ul Adha is one of the two biggest religious festivals of the year that Muslims around the world celebrate—the other being Eid Ul Fitr. The actual date of Eid Adha was November 6 and people traditionally celebrate the actual Eid day with friends and family. Typically, the Eid celebrations last for several days or a week afterwards—and the MSA/PSA party was the occasion to share the joys and festivities of Eid with the entire IIT community. Each year, MSA holds an Eid Ul Adha party at IIT, but this time, by partnering with the PSA, they were able to deliver the biggest Eid festival to date.

The party was held outside at Morton Park with a carnival theme. Some members of MSA thought that an outdoor party during the month of November might be a risky idea, but, fortunately, the weather that day turned out to be mostly sunny, with a 60-degree high. Nevertheless, to be on the safe side, the Campus Conference Centers (CCC) provided MSA with three large tents along with tables and chairs, in case the weather did not cooperate. There were also tents for entertainers: a caricaturist; a balloonist, who made teddy bears, puppies, hearts, bracelets, and whatnot with balloons; a face painter; a henna tattoo artist; and the jewel in the crown, great food. A restaurant called Al Bawadi catered. Eid, in Arabic, means a festival, and Eid Ul Adha means "festival of the sacrifice."

During Eid Ul Adha, Muslims (those who can afford to) sacrifice an animal (cow/sheep/goat) in commemoration of Prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his own son to God. Muslims believe that this was a difficult trial which God wanted to test Abraham and his son, Prophet Ishmael, with. They also believe that it was God's plan all along to have the sheep sacrificed in place of Ishmael, but before that God wanted to test how far Abraham was willing to go to obey the command of God. According to scripture, Abraham and Ishmael successfully passed this test from God, and so by God's command, Muslims sacrifice an animal in commemoration and in honor of the great patience that these two prophets of God showed.

To Muslims, Eid Ul Adha also means being thankful for the food and livestock which God has provided, hence the sacrifice of the farm animal for food. Also, charity and hospitality are important parts of Eid Ul Adha. Traditionally, one third of the meat from the sacrificed animal must be donated to the poor and homeless, and another third is to be distributed among friends; only one third is left for household consumption. Since charity is a central theme of Eid Ul Adha, MSA and PSA organized a fund raiser through Islamic Relief USA and IIT's Office of Student Life (OSL). Throughout the week preceding the Eid party, and during the event itself, charitable funds were collected to help the people devastated by the recent floods in Pakistan.

MSA and PSA would like to thank all the volunteers, participants and attendees who helped make this Eid party so successful.

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