

OPINION

Gaddafi's out, but what happens now?
Pg. 2

CAMPUS

2011 Wasan Lecture discusses int'l students.
Pg. 5

SPORTS

Lady Hawks win first conference game!
Pg. 10

TUESDAY

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Volume 170 | Issue 2

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TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

Opinion 2
Campus 3-7
A&E 8
The Slipstick 9
Sports 10-11

Retreat fosters leadership, involvement among sophomores



Photos by Utsav Gandhi

By Utsav Gandhi

CAMPUS EDITOR

About a year ago, I remember seeing my then-RA pack some clothes in a backpack and preparing to leave campus one Friday afternoon. I stopped by to ask him where he was going, and that was the first time I heard about the Sophomore Leadership Retreat. The Leadership Academy invests towards developing students to be true leaders and empowering them to inspire the same in others. Aimed at developing leadership skills, teamwork, and strong sense of community among the sophomore class, they organize this retreat which has really become a not-to-be-missed event at every undergraduate student's time here at IIT.

Today, having myself enjoyed the experi-

ence he was so looking forward to that afternoon, I can safely say it has probably been one of my most fun-filled weekends at IIT yet. A weekend of connecting with classmates, participating in off-the-mill team building and adventurous leadership activities (and that too in a beautiful setting), could not have kicked off sophomore year in a more memorable fashion.

Pretty Lake, MI is an apt name. A pristine lake in the middle of the woods, far away from the hustle and bustle of civilization was the best way to have a final hurrah before a hectic semester. The lodging was comfortable, the food was great, the weather was perfect, the walking trails in the woods looked inviting, there were even a couple of pet dogs in one of the neighboring houses. More important than this was the exciting line-up of activities planned for us

and in the teams where we were about to make some great new friends. For the early birds, a free evening meant just one thing – the lake! Personally, I didn't even know the difference between a kayak and a canoe till then – and therein began the first of many lessons I was to learn over the course of the weekend.

Over the next two days, we also tried our hand at sailing, low/high ropes, wall climbing and team based games. Team cheers resonated frequently around the campus, and competition was fierce. Featuring some incredible team leaders who were upper classmen and Leadership Academy scholars, every team was a balanced, well-placed unit who spent a lot of time together for the two days, really allowing us to connect more personally with our own peers we may have not met last year. There was also

time for basketball, soccer, volleyball in the evenings, along with a wonderful campfire and an exciting game of sardines (beneath a rarely-enjoyed open starry sky reflected pristinely in the stillness of the lake – a most breathtaking sight). In the end, every team was declared a winner in their own right, and it didn't even sound clichéd. Topping it up was an extraordinary workshop wherein those interested were given a rare opportunity to introspect and come up with some important conclusions about themselves.

Most of the participants spent the return journey catching up on some well-deserved sleep – and enjoyed a contented nap – with some great memories to take away from an unforgettable weekend.

Galvin introduces undergraduate research specialists

By Emily Hommerding

TECHNEWS WRITER

Many undergrads view the library as uncharted territory. Some even take pride in the fact that they have delayed visiting the library for their entire first year (or longer). However, there often comes a time in a student's academic career where using the library is advantageous, or even required to complete a class assignment or project. Using any new system for the first time can be confusing and overwhelming, especially as an assignment deadline approaches. Fortunately, Galvin Library has a new team of Undergraduate Research Specialists (URS) to help navigate the library's resources. URS consists of 11 undergraduates from a variety of disciplines. They are available when librarians are not available, giving students someone to

turn to when using the library during nights and weekends. URS can answer questions related to how to use Galvin Library to do research on a given topic. URS put an emphasis on educating their peers, in hopes that everyone who has used the service will be a more capable user of the library. URS encourages students to not procrastinate visiting the library, as gathering desired information becomes more difficult when a deadline looms just days or hours ahead. URS can be found in the Research Help Office on the 2nd floor of Galvin Library from 6 p.m. - 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday and all day on the weekends. The URS team is eager to help their fellow students and will do their best to answer any questions. To find out more, visit Undergraduate Research Specialists at IIT on Facebook (<http://on.fb.me/prwB5U>) or contact the URS supervisor Janelle Ruswick at ruswick@iit.edu.



Image courtesy of Illinois Institute of Technology

TechNews

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Providing Libyan aid shows humanity still exists

By **Sneha Seraf**
TECHNEWS WRITER

With all the things that have been going on in Libya for the past few months, I know I should be glad that the tyranny of the Gadhafi regime is finally being challenged.

However, instead I'm more skeptical about the Libyan rebels – are they any better than Gadhafi's loyalists? What are their intentions, besides overthrowing their government? Can we even trust them? And, once the rebels accomplish their goals, what sort of government would they set up, and how?

Second, I find myself ashamed of many fellow Americans. Over the past few months that I've been reading about the war in

Libya via the internet, I have inevitably come across user comments which I've taken personally.

Often times, these people vent out their frustrations – “Why should we help the Libyans in their war?” “Don't we already have problems of our own to take care of?” I wonder, whatever has happened to humanity in this world? Those people aren't any different than we are – they're still humans like the rest of us.

When I was little, I would hear stories of how even the poor people in India would give whatever they had to their neighbors whenever they desperately needed it. Those selfless people didn't care much of their own plight, so long as they were able to help others. What makes this any different, besides

the magnitude of the situation? Many Libyans are crying for freedom and democracy – why shouldn't we lend them a helping hand, in the name of humanity?

The people I am most worried about now are the civilians themselves. In the midst of this war, they will suffer no matter which side wins. I understand that innocent lives will always be lost whenever there is war; but how much of this sacrifice is too much? Houses get destroyed, families get separated, and there's always a constant fear in the hearts of these civilians. Is anyone listening to their cries for help? And if there is, why don't we pitch in to support the cause?

If there is anyone out there who can answer all these questions of mine, I would be very grateful.

Fresh in the ciITy: an alternative perspective

By **Pranamee Sarma & Utsav Gandhi**
TECHNEWS WRITER & CAMPUS EDITOR

Chicago breathed into my life a kind of rare genesis of frenzied outdoor planning.

Starting from my first day in January when the city was covered white, trees were bare and the sun was hidden, I was already in the mood to prowl for action and merriment. Chicago's downtown is considered to be a beauty and I love it even more for its forever charming affair, including my personal favorite – Millennium Park! The park has so much to offer, even during the chill of the year with everyone's favorite – ice skating, “Cloud Gate,” the famous art showcase in the park inspired by liquid mercury, and the lights.

You have to be there to feel warm and excited even in the dull winter under the aesthetic sense of life at the park. I stretched from this part of the city to the ‘Magnificent Mile’ which has gala elements with big shops, food joints and obviously the Marilyn Monroe

statue which is about 26 feet tall. The rest of the oh-so-famous places in and around the Mile are a must visit in everyone's itinerary in Chicago, but frankly, I've only just visited them myself.

Spring is a season to feel and see the colors changing all around. Flowers blooming, trees bearing white, pink and red, tulips of all colors all over Downtown, amazingly distributed with stylish artificial add-ons in their horticultural treatment. Then flows in the Summer of Chicago! Everything seems to be at its best with the season of warmth flowing in after May. When I was in India, the summer season seemed to be the longest period to bear but here my notion has completely changed – I don't want it to end so soon.

Summer here brings in not only the good weather but also an assortment of activities: carnivals, movie weeks, festivals, shows, events and lots of cycling. The best place to be during this time is the lake, the beach and of course Navy Pier. But you need lots of energy and motivation to actually enjoy this period.

My help came in from my friends and a new IIT venture called B-cycle. Just \$25 for the entire school year and I get to ride the bike everywhere in bike-friendly Chicago, especially the photographic lakeside, the grand Navy Pier and the tranquil beaches of the city. There's so much to explore, not only in this part of Illinois but all over the state.

IIT is also doing a lot to make the students always on the run for fun! The weekends, with events such as Fresh in the ciITy for the freshmen, Taste of Chicago with yummy brownies and pizzas, the We the Kings concert specially for the IIT students, and soon we shall see Homecoming week with so much more to do. Fresh in the ciITy was held last weekend with groups of ten-odd freshmen paired up with one or two upperclassmen as they enjoyed lunch at great restaurants and navigated the city completing fun challenges set up by the Leadership Academy. It's left the students awaiting more days of fun and activities till we finally bid adieu to the wonderful summer in a wonderful city!



Photos courtesy of Andrea Rivera

What's your angle?: Euthanasia's pros, cons

By **Kira Vincent**
TECHNEWS WRITER

“Hey Charlie, did you read the newspaper this morning?”

“Good morning Angie, and no, I didn't; I had an early class. Why was there something interesting?”

“Interesting isn't the word I would use for it. There was this really scary article about this doctor on trial for literally euthanizing one of his patients! Can you believe that?”

“Well it isn't really that surprising. The debate on whether or not it should be legal for a doctor to provide assisted death to patients has been going on for a long time. If

someone is really sick and in a lot of pain and there is no cure, don't they deserve the choice of ending their suffering earlier?”

“But you can't be sure they won't find a cure or some sort of treatment. What if someone has a year to live and decides on euthanasia, and a cure comes out in six months? That situation can seem hopeless and a really sick person may not see that there is always a chance for a cure and make a rash decision.”

“True, but that is a rare example. There are so many patients in hospitals that have a really low quality of life because they are literally just waiting to die. Many patients have said that if it was legalized they would opt for euthanasia. It's sad, but if it was legalized there

would be more space in hospitals and more medication available for other patients.”

“That does make sense, but what about people who are depressed and don't want to live? Do they have the right to go to the doctor and ask to die as well, even though there is a treatment and they aren't actually dying? And if you aren't going to give them that right, where do you draw the line?”

“That's a really good point. I guess the reason this issue is up for debate so often is because with all the different ways you can look at it, there really isn't a right or wrong answer.”

What's your angle? Send your thoughts to peds.iit@gmail.com

SGA introduces 'I Want' cards to improve campus

By Kelly Lohr

SGA VP OF COMMUNICATIONS

Key to Illinois Tech's Student Government Association is representing the thoughts and opinions of the students of the school. In order to do this, we use many means to answer the question: just what are your (the students') thoughts and opinions? The most obvious strategy being that senators talk to their peers, find out what they like and don't like about their school, and bring the issues back to Senate to try to resolve.

IIT Thoughts is another initiative to get students in contact with their senators. IIT Thoughts (sga.studgov.com/contact) is a digital form any student with a computer can access to tell SGA how they feel about IIT.

And now, there is yet another way to let us know what you think about IIT: the "I Want" cards. Simply cut out the card that looks like a generic nametag (other than the fact that it's green and says "I want this to be"). Think of something you'd like to see on campus, and write it on the card. Then take a picture of the card in front of whatever or wherever your desired object is. Send the picture to sga@iit.edu, and we'll put your pictures on our Facebook and pass them on to the administration. One picture is worth a thousand words, so tell us what you want by sending us a picture. It's our way of getting everyone to have a little fun and help the university along the way.



Photo courtesy of Kelly Lohr

SGA president calls for changes

By Elnaz Moshfeghian

SGA PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Classmates,

Classes started not too long ago but already we seem to feel the full weight of the school year. Yet for many students, their workload doesn't end with their courses. Some of these students hold offices in student organizations. Some of them strive to better themselves through fraternities and sororities. Others tirelessly conduct research in their field, formally or informally. And some students test the limits of their endurance as Scarlet Hawk student athletes or as physical fitness enthusiasts.

I write to you today, not because I want you to join the ranks of hyper-involved student leaders, but because I want you to claim the college experience you hoped to find at IIT. If you came to IIT for the small class sizes, demand innovation and mentorship from your professors. If you came to IIT to be more than a number, demand advocacy and support from professional staff. If you came to IIT to join the future movers and shakers, demand ambition and perseverance from your classmates.

But most importantly, if you do not see what you were hoping to find at IIT, make it known. Nobody understands the needs of students better than students themselves. That is the basis for the Student Government Association. We are a group of motivated students who are passionate about serving as the voice of the student body. With the input of students like yourself and supportive administrators, SGA championed the introduction of Google Apps for Education, the expansion of the library hours to 24 hours a day 5 days a week, and most recently, the initiation of a Student Discount Program.

So speak up, speak out, and do it often. We'll take it from there. And maybe you will find that providing feedback is not where your interest ends. Perhaps one instant you will realize, like every officer of Student Government once did, that you don't want to stop at voicing a concern. Instead, you want to shape the future of the IIT. If so, email sga@iit.edu. After all, we don't leave IIT when we graduate; on our resumes there will forever be "Illinois Institute of Technology".

Best wishes,
Elnaz Moshfeghian
President, Student Government Association
elnaz@hawk.iit.edu

Sodexo improves quality, selection of foods for special diets, lifestyles

By Christina Noonan

TECHNEWS WRITER

Imagine walking into a candy store and being told you can eat whatever you want... the only catch is, you can't eat anything with sugar. Can you imagine how frustrating that would be? This is a peek at what living with food restrictions can feel like at times. For those relying on Sodexo as their main source of food on campus, getting a well-balanced meal at multiple locations when excluding foods like bread, pasta, dairy, soy, or nuts could feel like a major challenge. After being diagnosed with Celiac Disease, a genetic autoimmune disease which requires following a "gluten-free" diet, I wasn't sure where to turn. I was able to go to the Commons and talk with the general manager about getting a small freezer of gluten free foods for myself and others similarly needing to follow this diet. I was so happy to have gotten help with this difficult diet, I wrote an article about it in an old TechNews issue.

Today, I'm happy to announce an even wider selection of healthy foods available for students. At Center Court, Connie's gluten free pizzas are expected to be available by Thanksgiving break. In addition, Center Court already has a variety of gluten free sushi, including the Vegetarian California Rolls, Philly Rolls, Spicy Tuna and Avocados, Spicy Tuna and Cucumber, and Spicy Salmon Rolls. There are also snacks available like Michael's Seasonings Gluten-free Cheese Poofs and Potato Chips are in Center Court for \$1.09 a bag. Not to mention, there are also naturally gluten free snacks like Lays potato chips and most tortilla chips. Some of the salads offered are available without croutons.

In the Uncommon Corner, the Ciao Bella Sorbet is an awesome dairy-free & fat-free alternative to ice cream. There's also a variety of gluten free options here like frozen meals, Udi's muffins, and my personal favorite, Snyder's of Hanover gluten-free (and dairy-free) pretzels. For those of you without food allergies, I really urge you to try these pretzels and see if you can tell the difference from normal pretzels. I love to go up to friends and ask them to taste test... and they can never tell. Ever.

In my experience, catering has been the most difficult area to find allergen-free foods.

I did get a small list of gluten-free and vegan foods available by request though. This included Vegan Morning Star black bean burgers, Gluten-free and Vegan Polenta Cakes with Ratatouille, Tofu Napoleon with red pepper, zucchini, squash and Hoisin glaze. With 2 week's advance notice Sodexo can also offer gluten-free pasta and pastry items at any catering event! I cannot stress this enough: If an office or student org is hosting an event with a large number of expected participants, I'd really suggest asking if anyone has food needs ahead of time and ordering food two weeks in advance.

The Bog has just started serving Redbridge beer, which is gluten free and produced by Anheuser-Busch. At Global Grounds, some of the NRGIZE smoothies are gluten-free as well. I wouldn't recommend adding whey protein and other supplements though as some of these may contain wheat or other fillers, and obviously don't add Oreos or cookie pieces either if you need to eat gluten-free! It is really important that you let the cashier know that all the equipment needs to be sanitized and that you are requesting a gluten-free drink in order to reduce cross-contamination.

Think there's more you'd like to see? Let Sodexo know! Part of the reason more allergen-free food isn't available yet is because they don't know how many people need special accommodations, and what those accommodations are. If you need something special, Sodexo's Executive Chef Jovanny Zepeda is able to customize a diet to any student's specific needs and execute gluten-free, vegan, and wheat-free dishes from the Pritzker Club kitchen. He's a really nice guy and has always been able to help me out with finding foods I can eat. If you'd like to contact him to set up an appointment and diet consultation, you can reach him at zepeda@iit.edu to set up an appointment and diet consultation. Anne Mothkovich, Sodexo's Retail Manager, has also been really integral in making a lot of these changes mentioned above. If you'd like to reach her, you can email her at anne.mothkovich@sodexo.com.

My next goal is to find the best way to gather information about how many students need special accommodations and what those accommodations are. If anyone has any ideas on how to do this or would like to help, feel free to contact me at noonan.christina@gmail.com.

TechNews corrections

In Issue 1, the Opinion article on page 2 titled "Chicago's summertime stunning, short-lived" was mistakenly credited to Sukrit Mishra. The article was actually written by Madhushree Ghosh. TechNews regrets the error.

Explosions, influenza: summer of a lifetime

By Alex Miller
STAFF WRITER

Anxious. Excited. Nervous. Intrigued. All of these feelings rushed through my body when I got the news: I was accepted as a summer intern at the Museum of Science and Industry.

Reporting to my first day of work, I was unsure of what to expect. What would my coworkers be like? What about all the information I didn't know? What if the kids at the museum didn't like me? Needless to say, all my worries were gone within a few minutes on the job. The F3s (the full time guest programs team) were extremely welcoming and helpful. They were also extremely enthusiastic, a nice addition to the early Monday morning.

We started the week with tours of the museum, as well as seeing everything the museum had to offer. Looking at the seven programs we were supposed to learn over the course of the summer, we were a little intimidated. We split into groups and started to learn about life at the museum.

The first program I learned was Bangs, Flashes, and Fire. This was a daily chemistry show where we talked about combustion reactions, produced a luminol reaction, did flame tests, created a fire that looked like a dragon's breath, and exploded balloons. As a first program to learn, it was extremely intimidating that we started off with one in the middle of

the rotunda for groups of up to 200 people at a time. The first time I did it was one of the most intimidating experiences of my life. I stumbled over my first few words and did my best to project an aura of confidence. Soon, I wasn't pretending anymore. After a few weeks, the chemistry show was one of my favorite programs just because it was so much fun!

Next, I learned a show called "Poop Happens." Basically, it's a journey through the digestion system, starting with your mouth and ending when "poop happens." This was an interesting program, as it required you to develop a character. There was a quirky librarian role, Mrs. Lotta Poopay, and a student presenting the project. Both required different skill sets including the ability to project a lot of energy into the audience and to learn about how to communicate with a more exaggerated version of yourself. That was extremely nerve-wracking during the actual practice and character development, but when it was time to perform the show for museum guests, it just turned into having fun.

The Flu and You and Dissect an Eye at MSI were more laid back environments. For groups of 20 to 30 people at a time, you would run an interactive lab to help people understand more about how viruses spread and how the eye works. As a civil engineering major, I didn't know much about either of these things, but they challenged me to go outside my comfortable limits and learn about something outside

my chosen focus of science.

Happy Brrr-thday was a really fun program. We used liquid nitrogen to celebrate a famous scientists birthday daily. Honestly, I was a little intimidated to act like a professional capable of handling a material that had a boiling point of -321°F. With all the safety training and practice they gave us, however, I was comfortable enough with the program to have a lot of fun while running the program.

One of my favorite programs this summer was Earth Revealed. In a side corridor of the museum that few people ever ventured into was a 6-ft in diameter carbon sphere constantly projecting different images. I ran a program on it about the possibility of life on other planets. We looked at the capabilities of each planet to maintain life and talked about the plausibility of other forms of life out there in the universe. This was an amazing program because it allowed you to have personal conversations with the guests and debate a little about controversial topics such as life in outer space. Everyone had a different perspective on that and it was intriguing to hear about all of them.

The program that scared me the most was MSI Hospital. We would run a 40 minute program teaching museum guests about our human patient simulator, Stan (D. Ardman). First talking about what a doctor does, we would take vital signs of Stan while he was normal and healthy. We would then put Stan through a medical emergency and ask museum guests

to figure out what was wrong with him. Not only did you have to run a robot while interacting with museum guests, but you also had to be able to answer some tough questions that guests would have about various medical problems. Knowing virtually nothing about medicine myself, I started training for this program terrified of what guests would ask. As a program that you performed with a partner, however, and training from the F3s on how to answer questions without offending people, Stan ended up not being so scary after all.

Overall, this summer was exhilarating, challenging, and one of the best summer's I've ever had. I grew so close to each of my fellow interns, it's weird to only see them every few days around campus.

To get involved with this incredible partnership yourself, apply to volunteer at the museum either during fall or spring semester. Every volunteer will then be eligible to apply for the summer internship if they spend at least 4 weekend days over the course of the semester volunteering.

For anyone who enjoys learning about science, spending time with other people, and challenging themselves, MSI is the place to be. Yes, you will go outside your comfortable limits, but you'll also look back on how much you've grown and realize that that was the experience of a lifetime. I know for me it was an incredible experience that I will never forget.

Curious about work study? Financial Aid is here to help

By the Office of Financial Aid

The federal work study program allows students to work on campus or for a community partner and be paid, in part, by the Department of Education.

If you are eligible for federal work study for the 2011-12 academic year, the Office of Financial Aid awarded it to you in your aid package this year. There are several ways to find a job on campus. One of the most common ways is by utilizing Nacelink, which is managed by the Career Management Center. This tool, found on the Career Management Center's website (<https://iit-csm.symplicity.com/students/>), allows students to create an account and search for job postings. Not all jobs are federal work study jobs so all students can use this tool to look for campus jobs.

If you do have federal work study and are still looking for a job this year, consider

a community service position. IIT has partnered with numerous schools & non-profits in the area to utilize federal work study funds to pay students to work for these agencies.

All jobs are posted in Nacelink, where you will find instructions on how to apply and whom to contact. Currently, the following agencies are looking to hire IIT students: Chinese American Service League, Center for Higher Development, Edge Alliance, Perspectives Charter School-IIT Math & Science Academy, Perspectives Charter School-Calumet Tech High School, the Young People's Project and James Wood Elementary School. Apply today!

For questions related to the community service positions, please contact Kelli Goers in the Office of Financial Aid at goersk@iit.edu. Kelli does not do any hiring, so check Nacelink to apply, but she is happy to help with any questions about the process.

Happy Job Searching!

Preparing for the Journey of a Lifetime

By Toby Causby

Sponsored by the IIT Leadership Academy

Life is a grand adventure taking us from cradle to grave. For student leaders, every academic year is a **journey** unto itself offering opportunities to **explore**, to **discover**, to **encounter**, and to **experience** new and exciting people, places, and things. This program introduces the five **essential steps** for every **successful journey**.

Learn more about the presentation and register at LeadershipAcademy.iit.edu/schedule

Date & Time: Saturday, October 1, 2011
10:00 am - 2:00 pm (Lunch provided)

Location: HUB - Armour Dining Room

Remember this event is only open to IIT, Shimer, and Vandercook undergraduate students.



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Darsh Wasan Lecture 2011: Future of international students in USA

By **Utsav Gandhi**
CAMPUS EDITOR

The Darsh T. Wasan Lecture was established in 2008 in honor of IIT Motorola Chair and Vice President of International Affairs Darsh T. Wasan's extraordinary contributions to the university over the last forty-five years as professor, provost, dean and chief ambassador. Last year, IIT was fortunate enough to play host to a great personality in the world of climate change research, Susan Solomon. This year's lecture was held on Wednesday, September 7, and was delivered by another distinguished name in the field of education and research, Alice Gast, President of Lehigh University. In a well-attended event, she made some important points about the future of international students in the United States, after decades of leadership in providing world-class education and managing to attract the crème de la crème of talent from around the world into what have today become the best institutions of higher study in the world.

Most of these students have, over the years, stayed on in the country where they received their education and contributed positively to the corporate, academic and entrepreneurial leadership environment in the country. However, today, the world is catching up. Countries are painstakingly trying to notch up their academic institutions so that they can make an honest effort in retaining their own talent and utilizing them for their growth. Gast's talk looked at the changing policies of the US and whether these were efficient in providing the required benefits and opportunities for

those who are debating whether to stay back or go back. Also, the States is now a significant contributor of students going abroad; and this trend is welcome, according to her, as it enables American students to be a lot more world-savvy and gain global competencies.

She spoke of international students who have made a mark for themselves after graduating from American colleges – some, like the one after whom this very lecture is named, have achieved stupendous heights of success they may not have enjoyed had they chosen to go back. Some have become global citizens – working with multinational institutions and making a difference along with leaving their mark on the world map. A select few have gone back with ideas nurtured through an American education and made huge progress in the societies they came from. International students, she said, are a huge boon to any college – they are entrepreneurial, proactive and natural risk-takers. The very plane journey taken to leave the comforts of a homely environment to come a country where literally every aspect of a new lifestyle has to be contended with is a tremendous achievement in itself. American students are extremely fortunate to have lab mates and roommates from cultures they may have never been exposed to before – it really opens their eyes to the outside world in a big way.

After 9/11, the number of admitted students from certain regions of world obviously declined heavily, and they haven't quite caught up yet – many times their rejections are left unexplained. Now, India and China have started to offer increased benefits for US Green Card holders who have chosen to return. Re-



Image courtesy Michael Goss Photography

gional opportunities for higher education have opened up in Qatar, Australia and Singapore – these are closer to home, affordable and increasingly at par with American higher education. On the other hand, student acceptance into the States isn't showing the spark it has

been showing all these years. Delays, denials, inconsistencies with acceptances, transparency and export control regulations all need to be looked into if the United States is to make sure they don't lose out on any more talent who might significantly contribute to the country.

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Apply for ASB 2012!

By **Utsav Gandhi**
CAMPUS EDITOR

Habitat for Humanity is an international organization that serves to eliminate homelessness from the world and provide decent shelter as a matter of conscience and action. To accomplish these goals, they invite people of all ages, including students, to help them build houses for families in need. To date, they have built over 350,000 houses all over the world, providing shelter for over 1.75 million people.

IIT has been actively participating every year in these efforts, responding to Habitat's Collegiate Challenge, and over the last few spring breaks, teams of 30-odd students and staff have worked at sites all over the country – Warner Robins, Georgia; Foley, Alabama; and Oakland, California, to name a few. This past year, our group of 27 students and 5 staff advisers headed to Oakland, CA during the week of March 13, 2011. For four full days, our team worked with the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate on one of their build sites, constructing a home for local families in need. This experience gave the students the opportunity to work with families and volunteers from the local community to assist and help rebuild a small poverty-stricken town. The impact this trip has had stretches beyond just a week of the student's time, but has changed the lives of others for the better. We stayed at a Presbyterian church, often had meals donated from local restaurants, rented cars and frequently drove out to see the city of San Francisco, the Muir Woods, Berkeley and the neighborhoods of Haight/Ashbury, to name a few. It was by

far the best experience of my freshman year, simply because of the time we shared as a team and the difference we made to the community. Which is why I am inspired to be Fundraising Chair for ASB 2012, along with other alum Lisa Kwiatowski (President), Yeamlaksira Worku (Vice President), Gary So (Treasurer) and Maria Martinez (Publicity Chair). In the past, the Office of Spiritual Life and Service Learning was in charge of co-ordinating our efforts, but this year we are an independent student organization, with our staff advisors Betsi-Pinkus Huizenga and Katie Murphy Stetz (Dean of Students).

The trip was partly funded by the SAF; but mostly paid for through fundraising. I clearly remember that besides a little shopping and meals at the airport, I didn't have to shell out any cash during the trip itself. Therefore, all team members are required to participate actively in these efforts – either spearheading them or helping out in their own small ways. It's not much of a time commitment, except for weekly meetings, but every small fundraising effort counts towards reducing our own cost. We don't know yet where we're going this year, though we have to 'bid' for possible site locations from a list of nearly fifty site choices, one or more from each state.

Applications for ASB 2012 are currently being accepted! It is an online application which has to be turned in by September 18, 2011 at 11:59 PM. The link is tinyurl.com/asb2012app

If you have any questions, email us at ash.iit@gmail.com.

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and Golf cart

Morton Park

Wed

Sep 21 @ 6 pm

Waterballoon
capture the flag

Morton Park

Mon

Sep 19 @ 6 pm

Dodgeball

Morton Park

Thu

Sep 22

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Tues

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From the Vault: 'Oh, Inverted World' by The Shins

By Ryan Kamphuis

A&E EDITOR

Welcome to the first article in a new series called, "From the vault." Each week in From the Vault, somebody will write a review of one of their favorite albums. An album that has stood the test of time for them, and they feel needs to be shared. Whether it be an old Columbia jazz record from the 1950s, arena rock from the 1980s, or some grunge from the 90s, this section is where you can write about it!

2001 was an interesting year for music. Boy bands, who dominated the music scene all through the late 90s, were in rapid decline. Daft Punk released their Discovery album, symbolizing the growing mainstream popularity of techno music. The bands that would grow to define the next decade in music were releasing their first EPs. Amidst this backdrop, a band that had been performing under various names and lineups throughout the 90s was signed to Seattle's Sub Pop Records, settled on a lineup and the name "The Shins" and released their first record: Oh, Inverted World.

Oh, Inverted World was something totally new for 2001. Playing a subdued-summer pop that harkened back to The Beach Boys, the album enjoyed good reviews and solid sales. It also formally kicked off the career

of The Shins, and quickly became one of the definitive indie-rock albums of the early 2000s.

The feeling of the album is constantly changing. Each track is unique, and makes for a diverse compilation. The common elements throughout the album are the chill feeling that The Shins are known for, the undear singing of James Mercer (The Shins' frontman and lead vocalist), and the wistful chords that have an almost longing quality to them.

Ten years later Oh, Inverted World is just as good as the day it was released. Since it first came out, The Shins have enjoyed enormous success. Many of their songs were used in movie soundtracks (movies like Garden State and The Spongebob Squarepants Movie), they went on to release two more highly-successful albums, and have become one of the go-to indie rock bands of the past decade. But Oh, Inverted World still sounds relevant. In fact, I would claim that the album has gotten better with age. As The Shins gained popularity, their style changed and became more alternative, losing some of the strong 60s folk-rock feel. Oh, Inverted World still is strongly in touch with that and is more unique because of it.

If you're into rock music, I can't recommend Oh, Inverted World enough. It's something different and exciting, and can be enjoyed by almost anyone.

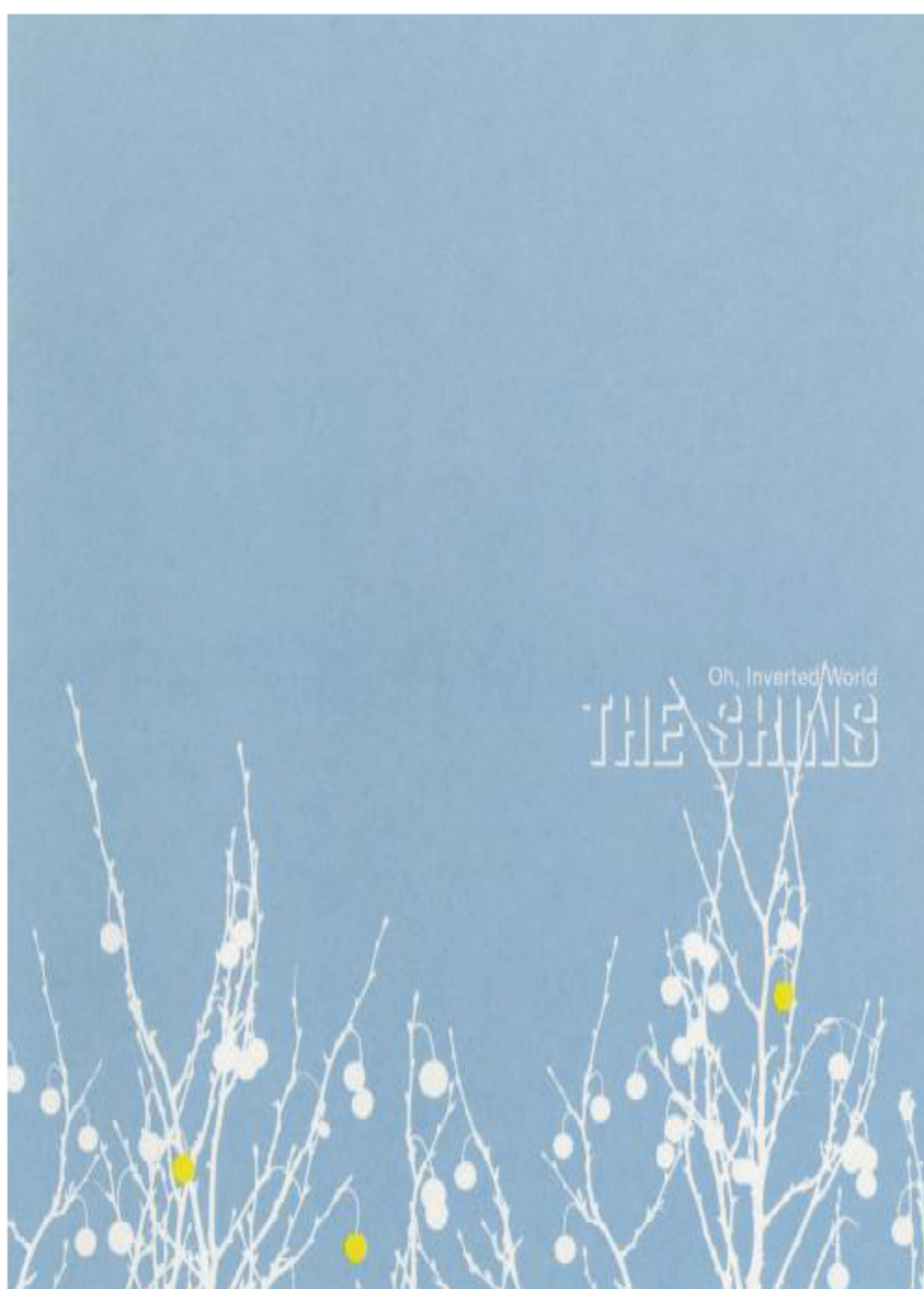


Image courtesy of turntablekitchen.com

Bastion: great game in a small package

By Karl Ryballowski

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At a glance, Bastion is a whimsical-looking bite-sized isometric hack 'n slash adventure in the vein of Diablo and its clones. But with an astounding soundtrack, watercolor art design, and a deceptively addictive story, it offers a lot in a very small package. Add to that gameplay as casual or as intense as one desires - something you can change on the fly - and the \$15 price tag starts to look very compelling.

Bastion is the debut effort by indie outfit Supergiant Games, and for a small game (available via Xbox Live Arcade and Steam), is a very ambitious first effort. It follows a character trying to piece the world back together after an apocalyptic event - the Calamity - literally shatters it. As the protagonist moves around, bits and pieces of the world literally form in front of him (a very cool effect to start with, but with thematic importance, as is slowly revealed). The character picks up a bevy of weapons to defeat foes on his quest, while finding a small cast of survivors and slowly learning what brought the Calamity about.

The hero of the story - simply known as The Kid - is the silent type. But the introduction of a narrator - an old grizzled man with a gravelly voice and a world-weary delivery - lets

the central plot of the game unfold, piece by piece, with each action the protagonist takes. Weapons or other items scattered throughout the game get little back-stories when picked up, and the narration allows the player to peel away at the layers of the story, a little at a time, without sacrificing any momentum in the actual gameplay.

Bastion's music is a mix of electronic beats and stringed instruments - guitar, banjo, mandolin, even viola - that gives the game a baroque Western feel. The soundtrack itself was recorded by Darren Korb, with a pedigree in design of music for television shows and even games in the Rock Band series, and the attention to detail shows, with different pieces perfectly matched with the art design and narration to evoke a genuine atmosphere, whether it be ominous, suspenseful, or merely wistful. In fact, the soundtrack has become available on its own and is enjoying brisk sales.

For a game that can be finished handily in under ten hours, Bastion leaves an impression - the seemingly simple gameplay and art style slowly develop into a very rich, complex, rewarding experience, with a strong narrative and a unified feel. Don't just take my word for it, though - play the demo, check it out, and you won't be disappointed.



Image courtesy of xblafans.com

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The Office of Campus Energy and Sustainability (OCES) is coordinating an effort among students, faculty and staff to define the specific actions, programs and policy changes IIT will make in order to reach the targeted commitments that will define IIT as the most sustainable urban university campus in the United States.

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It's a Snap!

By Myles Mellor and Sally York

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13					14						15			
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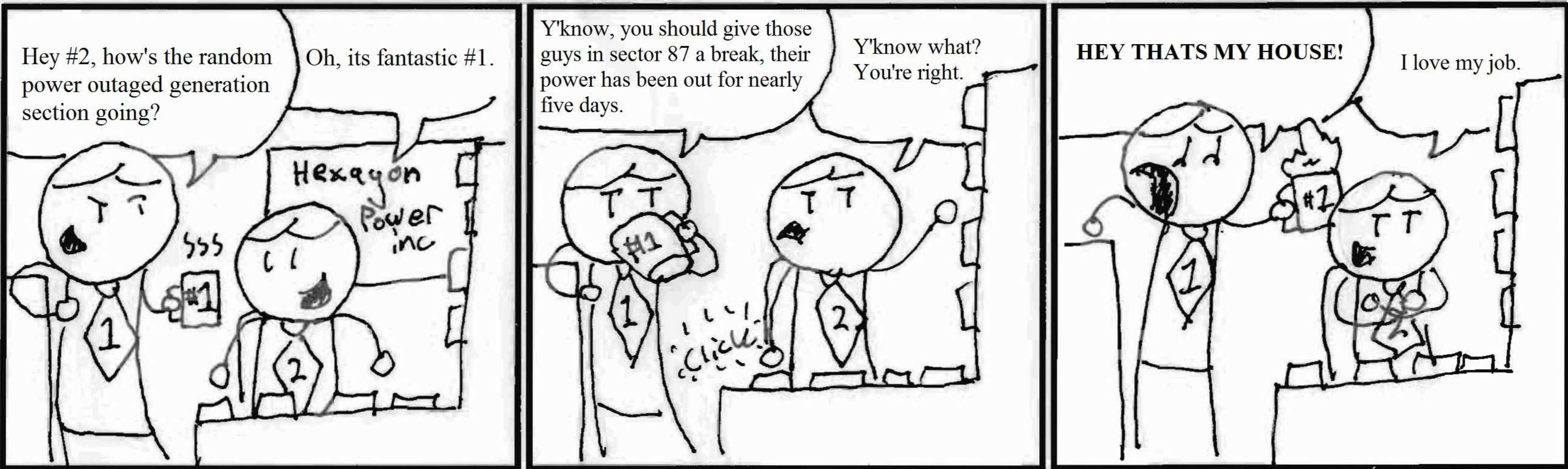
- Across

 - 1. Middle ____
 - 5. Federal org.
 - 9. June honorees
 - 13. Pull partner
 - 14. ____ Boothe Luce
 - 15. Clickable image
 - 16. "Someone ____" (2006 movie)
 - 17. Attack
 - 18. Swiss painter Hans
 - 19. Site of illicit bar for the leisure class?
 - 22. Jam
 - 23. Deodorant brand
 - 24. Second sight
 - 27. Unburdened
 - 29. Out of style
 - 32. Taiwanese girl group
 - 33. Chesterfield, e.g.
 - 36. Sparsely populated North Dakota city
 - 37. Simply relax?
 - 42. Contemptible one
 - 43. "The Open Window" writer
 - 44. Factor XI (abbr.)
 - 45. OK, in a way
 - 47. Undertake, with "out"
 - 49. Az ____, R&B group from Philly
 - 50. Bypass
 - 52. Journal
 - 54. A soft touch brings relief?
 - 62. Mythological ferryman
 - 63. Cunning
 - 64. Popular Serbian folk singer
 - 65. Gunks
 - 66. Broke off
 - 67. Experienced
 - 68. Brickbat
 - 69. Check
 - 70. Reno calculation
- Down

 - 1. Primatologist's study
 - 2. Mouthful
 - 3. Cigarette brand
 - 4. Bundle
 - 5. Long bone
 - 6. Back talk
 - 7. Hunts
 - 8. Establishes
 - 9. Diacritical marks
 - 10. Israeli port city
 - 11. Fully cooked
 - 12. Agitated state
 - 14. Live peacefully together
 - 20. White wine aperitif
 - 21. Start of a refrain
 - 24. Jolting therapy, for short
 - 25. Wrap
 - 26. Black tea
 - 28. Buck passers?
 - 30. Mawkish
 - 31. A-list
 - 34. J.F.K. overseer
 - 35. Says "When?"
 - 38. Poisoning from tainted grain
 - 39. Mosque officials
 - 40. Gave way
 - 41. Bother, with at
 - 46. Feudal sovereigns
 - 48. Excessively
 - 51. Jeer
 - 53. Ptychozoon
 - 54. Musical pieces
 - 55. Carbon compound
 - 56. Ancient colonnade
 - 57. Fries, maybe
 - 58. Posited Big Bang substance
 - 59. E-mail, e.g.
 - 60. ____ coffee
 - 61. Hebrew letters

The First Day of the Rest of My Life

By Adin Goings
ART EDITOR



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

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."
Source: Wikipedia

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

Cross country running strong after losing seniors

By **Melanie Koto**
STAFF WRITER

This year, the Scarlet Hawks Cross Country team is welcoming a lot of new faces. The team graduated five seniors in 2010, but welcomes twelve new members to the team for the Fall 2011 season.

The team has already competed in an invitational one on the 3rd of September, where the Men's team finished 7th out of 16, and the Women's team finished 4th out of 12.

Freshman Abby Jahn gave a strong performance for the Lady Hawks, finishing in 3rd place overall (15:30) in the 4-km race.

The Ladies also saw three other top performances by Courtney Rouse, Maddy Jensen and Kira Vincent. For the Men's 6-km race, senior Wes Villalobos finished 34th (21:01) to score for the team.

When asked what his outlook for the team is, Coach Kopinski commented, "We always aim for the top 2 in conference.

Last year we finished 5th for both men and women, but we are in arguably the 2nd or 3rd toughest conference in the nation, so we will just aim to be as competitive as possible."

In terms of training, Coach Kopinski maintains the same strategy, "Train hard, get used to racing tired, and leave it out on the course. No regrets."

The team will be competing again in Libertyville, IL on the 24th of September.

Images courtesy of Illinois Tech Athletics



Women's volleyball wins first conference of season

By **Kayla Heller**
TECHNEWS WRITER

The Illinois Tech Volleyball team (5-8, 1-0) picked up its first conference win of the season on Tuesday September 6 as they defeated Trinity International in four sets (25-23, 24-26, 25-17, 25-23).

Sophomore Kate Kendall, one dig shy of a double-double, lead the Hawks with 12 kills and nine digs. Senior Kayla Heller chipped in 11 kills, and junior Mariska Vandenberg added 9 of her own. Freshman Shea Manley recorded a career-high five aces in the victory.

Sophomore libero Brittany Mead registered her seventh match in a row of double-digit digs, finishing with 16 for the match.

"Anytime you can win a conference match, especially on the road, it makes you feel good," commented Head Coach Jacqui Gatt after the match. "We've been making great progress, but we still have a long way to go."

The Hawks then traveled to Livonia, MI to play in Madonna University's 2011 Julie Martin Memorial Tournament. The Hawks



Image courtesy of Illinois Tech Athletics

opened up their day with a sweep of Rochester College (25-11, 25-22, 25-17) on Friday afternoon (Sept 9).

Heller led the Hawks with nine kills to go along with a .467 attack percentage, three service aces and a block. Manley chipped in with a career-high seven kills, while junior Rebecca Bograd led all players with 31 assists in the victory. Mead registered a game high of 14 digs.

In the next game, IIT faced one of its toughest opponents on the year, with the team falling in three to host (Nationally Ranked #19) Madonna University (15-25, 13-15, 19-25).

MU out-hit IIT .330 to .055. Heller and Manley led the Hawks with five kills apiece, with Heller also contributing two service aces.

The Lady Hawks wrapped up the weekend by dropping both matches on Saturday (Sept 10). Despite a 13-kill performance from Heller, IIT saw 18 tie scores and six lead changes but could not stop Daemen College, as the team fell 21-25, 17-25, 24-26. Bograd dished out 28 assists while Mead tallied a match-high 17 kills.

IIT then fell to Walsh University (21-25, 18-25, 19-25) during their second match of the day.

The Hawks were led by Vandenberg, who registered six kills and three blocks in the defeat. Bograd posted 23 helpers and digs while Mead and sophomore Roma Mirutenko collected 11, and 10 digs respectively.

For her efforts, Rebecca Bograd was named to the 2011 JMM All-Tournament team, after finishing the weekend with 103 assists, 17 digs, four blocks and three service aces.

Illinois Tech is on the road once again on Tuesday (Sept 13) against cross-town conference rival Robert Morris University. The match up between the two teams will take place at Attack Athletics at 7:00 PM.

Athlete Spotlight Sam Wistanley

Name: Sam Wistanley
Year: Senior
Major: Business Administration
Sport: Men's Soccer.
Position: Goalkeeper.
Favorite thing about your sport: "Being part of a winning team and the camaraderie it brings."
What you like best about the fans at your games: "It's nice to see people from the IIT community come and support the guys."
Favorite thing to do on Campus: "Use the computers in the MTCC to visit my favorite website: www.robert-rixer-doing-things.tumblr.com"

Men's soccer flying high in Indiana

By **Ciaran Kohli-Lynch**
STAFF WRITER

The Men's Soccer Team were back in action this weekend, travelling to Indiana to play against Bethel College and Indiana Wesleyan. The Hawks went into this weekend posting a 0-2-1 record after two spirited performances last weekend in Iowa against nationally-ranked programs. For many people associated with the team, this has been a sub-par start to the season and this weekend was undoubtedly seen as an opportunity to set things straight against two well regarded opponents.

The first game kicked off on Friday evening with a 4-0 victory over Indiana Wesleyan - a side that have been receiving votes nationally. Senior winger Graeme Port notched up four goals in an impressive team performance against a stubborn Indiana Wesleyan team, who did their utmost to break down possession and physically impose themselves on the match. The Hawks opened the scoring on four minutes after some nifty wing-play by Senior midfielder Robert Ritchie-Smith allowed Port to tap home from a few yards out. Despite the Hawks creating several chances throughout the opening period after this impressive start, it was Wesleyan with the next genuine opportunity on goal. Striker Geoff Bowman

found some space at the edge of the area and sent a strike fizzing towards the bottom corner of the Hawks' goal but luckily Senior goalkeeper Sam Winstanley was on hand to make an important save. This was followed just before half-time by Port's second goal of the evening after Ritchie-Smith connected with Freshman Nathan McMahon's cross. The ball rebounded back off the bar falling to Port at the back post. The victory was secured five minutes from time when Port maneuvered well to find some space in the Wesleyan box before unleashing an unstoppable drive which ricocheted off the goalkeeper and into the net. Two minutes later the scoreline was completed when Robert Ritchie-Smith threaded a pass through the Wesleyan defense and Port showed composure to slot the ball past the onrushing opposition goalkeeper.

Saturday's match proved to be a much more tense affair, with the Hawks managing to grind out a 2-1 victory over a Bethel team ranked nineteenth in the nation. Gerardo Carrera of Bethel opened the scoring in the seventh minute after an unlucky deflection wrong-footed Winstanley in the Hawks' goal. Junior forward Liam Barrett responded immediately however, connecting exquisitely with a Graeme Port cross, his header leaving the



Image courtesy of Illinois Tech Athletics

goalkeeper with no chance. This was followed ten minutes later when Robert Rixer showed the hundreds of Bethel fans in attendance why exactly he has become so famous in the Philippines after his summer exploits representing their national team. Rixer picked the ball up in the penalty area when a corner deflected to his feet and showed class, composure and trickery in prodding home from two yards. This goal was followed almost immediately by a red card for Bethel substitute Romulo Nobrega for violent conduct after he elbowed Rixer in the face. Despite their numerical superiority, the Hawks

had to fight hard for the rest of the match as Bethel's ten men rallied together. Fortunately the team managed to see out the rest of the game but despite a few nervous moments, tellingly Bethel never tested the Hawks' goalkeeper.

Overall it was a very successful trip to Indiana for the Men's Soccer Team, their record now sitting at 2-2-1 going into a stretch of three home games in the upcoming weeks. These victories will have to be built upon, however, if the Hawks are to emulate and surpass the success of last season. In the words of Junior midfielder Guilherme Nunes, "We have now shown that we have the ability in this squad to compete with the very best teams in the nation. Hopefully this weekend's results will be a building block for the season ahead and from my perspective, the sky is our limit."

For more information about the Scarlet Hawk's visit www.illinoistechathletics.com/sport/0/4.php and for those interested in Robert Rixer's involvement with the Filipino National Team please visit www.robert-rixer-doing-things.tumblr.com.



Women's soccer drops two games in Michigan

By **Heather Bickerton**
STAFF WRITER

Over the weekend, the Women's Soccer team travelled to Grand Rapids, Michigan to face Aquinas College and Davenport University. On Saturday, conditions were incredibly tough, with the heat radiating off the turf field.

The Hawks entered the game with a 0-2 record and were keen to pick up their first win of the season, which was evident throughout the game.

However, despite dominating the match, the team came out with a 2-0 loss. For the first twenty minutes of the game, the away side had most of the possession and linked up well with some great passing combinations.

Unfortunately, the Scarlet Hawks were unable to create any strong chances in the final third of the field. Aquinas's first attack of the game resulted in them scoring their first goal, which was created from a corner.

The Hawks pressed onto the opposition's half and nearly tied the game up straight away, when senior Grace Durbin lofted a beautiful pass to her twin sister Kay Durbin, who unfortunately shot the ball narrowly wide.

Only minutes later Kay came even closer to pulling the Hawks back into the match, when her shot smacked off the post.

In the second half, the pace of the game definitely slowed down, with both teams suffering greatly from the temperature.

Fifteen minutes into the half, the ball broke free in the center of the field from a quick free kick, and was slotted through the Aquinas defense to freshman Veronica Torres, who forced a great save from the home keeper.

The luck in the final third just wasn't on Illinois Tech's side and again, despite holding the ball well, Aquinas scored their second goal of the game, with a long range shot curling into the top corner of the Hawks goal.

The team fought until the end of the game but couldn't create any more chances on the Aquinas goal.

The following day the team travelled a short way down the road to play Davenport University.

Past meetings with the Panthers have always been intense and incredibly close and this game didn't disappoint the fans. Once again, the Hawks produced another fantastic



Image courtesy of Illinois Tech Athletics

team performance but yet again the team just couldn't finish the ball and conceded some soft goals, which resulted in a disappointing 3-1 loss.

The first half produced an array of opportunities for both teams; however, only the home side seemed to be able to convert their chances into goals. By half-time the score line was 2-0.

The Lady Hawks put up a valiant display in the second half, with constant pressure on the ball and a greater amount of possession.

With fifteen minutes to go, the Hawks finally got the break their good play deserved, when Noel Deis launched in a free kick and the ball was bundled into the goal by a Davenport player. With a goal finally under their belt, even though it was a scrappy own-goal, the away side were even more motivated and came close to equalizing on several occasions.

The game was a roller coaster, with Davenport having a fair amount of chances. However, the Hawks back-four had a strong game and their goalkeeper, junior Jessica Carlson, pulled off some fine saves to keep her side in the match.

Unfortunately for the Hawks, the home side killed off the game when they found some space through the back line to score their third and final goal of the game. The ladies definitely had the home side rattled for a vast amount of the second half but the Hawks just couldn't convert their chances.

Even though the team returned from Michigan with two losses the team haven't let their heads drop. In fact, in both games the Hawks didn't deserve to lose.

The girls would like to thank the fans that travelled to Michigan to support the team and hope to see everyone at Stuart Field for the Hawks' next home game.

Upcoming Home Events

Saturday, September 17

Women's Soccer vs Bethel College

1pm, Stuart Field

Men's Soccer vs Lawrence Tech

3pm, Stuart Field

Men's Soccer Record:

Overall 2-2-1 (.500)

Conference - 0-0-0 (.000)

Friday 9 Sep

W 4-0 - @ Indiana Wesleyan

(Receiving National Top 25 Votes)

Saturday 10 Sep

W 2-1 - @ Bethel College (#19 National Rank)

Women's Soccer Record:

Overall 0-4 (.000)

Conference 0-0-0 (.000)

Saturday 3 Sep

L 0-2 - @ Aquinas College

Sunday 4 Sep

L 1-3 - @ Davenport University

Women's Volleyball:

Overall 5-8 (.385)

Conference 1-0 (1.000)

Tuesday 6 Sep

W 3-1 - @ Trinity International University

Friday 9 Sep

W 3-0 - vs Rochester College

L 0-3 - @ Madonna University

Saturday 10 Sep

L 0-3 - vs Daemen College

(Receiving National Top 25 Votes)

L 0-3 - vs Walsh University



UNIVERSITY
SOCIAL CALENDAR

**ALL THIS WEEK - HERMAN HALL
MUSICAL AUDITIONS**

**START THURSDAY 15 - The BOG IN HH
STRIKE FORCE BOWLING LEAGUE**

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 16 - The BOG IN HH
EURO NIGHT**

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17 - STUART FIELD
WOMEN'S SOCCER GAME**

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17 - STUART FIELD
MEN'S SOCCER GAME**

Psst! Did you know? Student orgs can put up event info by submitting their events on the UB website! So go for it!

**Do you want to know more about upcoming events?
Come and hang out at:**



UNION BOARD



General Body Meetings

1:00 PM every Tuesday @ MTCC auditorium



For more information scan this code, visit:

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