

# Water-themed engineering group cleans up local beach

By Amy Henson

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On Friday, 29 students, faculty, and staff teamed up to clean the 31st Street Beach as part of the IIT Engineering Theme: Water.

At the day of service, the team combed the beach for litter and tested water samples for bacteria and contaminants. Testing for bacteria takes two days of incubation and strong attention to detail to avoid contaminating the samples. With the help of three student

team leaders, Professor Paul Anderson (CAEE) documented the process and will post the results and pictures at the themes website this week. Check out the results at [iit.edu/engineering/themes](http://iit.edu/engineering/themes).

The Water volunteers will also report the results as part of a national data collection effort with the Alliance for the Great Lakes. According to the Alliance, the Great Lakes contain nearly 20 percent of the world's fresh water, providing drinking water to more than 40 million people. Threats to the Great Lakes range from pollution and invasive species to wasteful water use and global warming.

The IIT Engineering Theme Water is taking a hands-on approach to all of these issues, helping IIT students gain experience and work to solve the problems at the same time. If you missed this chance to volunteer, the Engineering Themes will host another beach cleanup in the spring. Here are a few highlights from the day:

Found most at the beach: Styrofoam, glass bottles, cigarette butts, plastic bags, and fast food wrappers.

Grossest find: a dead fish!

Total litter removed: more than 50lbs.

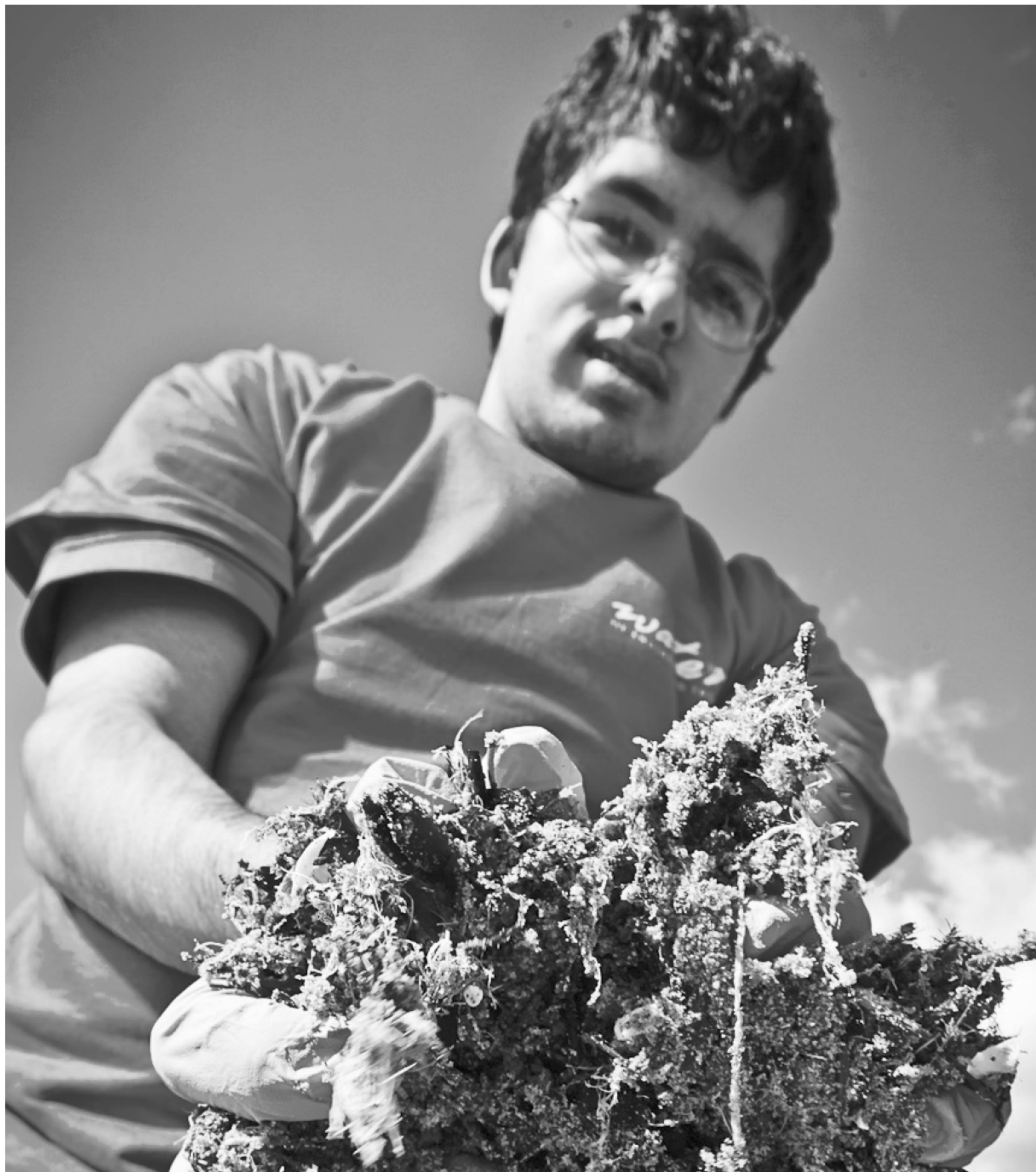
Most collected: Engineering staff member Lisa Stok – nearly 10lbs of trash. Nice

job Lisa!

Quote of the day: "It's good to see IIT helping the environment and the community," Chris Schaffer, mechanical and aerospace engineering undergrad.

Thanks again to everyone who helped out. The next theme sponsored trip will be to The Plant, Chicago's first vertical farm, on Thursday, October 27. For more information, visit the themes website or stop by Perlstein Hall Auditorium at 1 p.m. Monday, October 17 for a presentation about The Plant, sponsored by the IIT student group Engineers for a Sustainable World.

Photos courtesy of Armour College of Engineering



# Intramural basketball program scores slot on campus

By Ian Sisson

TECHNEWS WRITER

In the spring of 2009, the men's and women's varsity basketball programs at IIT were 'indefinitely suspended' by university president John Anderson.

Most of the former athletes of these programs have either graduated or moved on to other universities, though a handful remains. Since the end of basketball as a varsity sport, organized basketball has remained popular on

campus among students.

The courts at Keating Hall are filled to capacity with pick-up games nearly every night of the week. The co-ed intramural league has seen significant growth in participation and level of competition over the past few years.

With interest in basketball on campus at such a high level, the opportunity is present to again provide students with the opportunity to compete in the sport at a higher level.

Although the future of basketball

as a varsity sport is indefinite, basketball as a club sport is immediately capable of being established.

The good news is that this process is already under way, and you have the great opportunity of becoming a part of the IIT Men's Basketball Club in its inaugural season this fall and winter. If you have ever competed in basketball at the collegiate level or aspired to compete at the collegiate level, this program is directed toward you. We are seeking to form a

roster of well-conditioned, athletic, and skilled players by the end of October and start playing official games by early November.

Membership is open to graduate and undergraduate students of IIT and students of its affiliated campuses, as well as students from Shimer, Vandercook, and ICO. You can find and 'like' our page on facebook, IIT Men's Basketball Club, to learn more and receive updates. Contact [isisson@hawk.iit.edu](mailto:isisson@hawk.iit.edu) with any questions.