

OPINION

Smoking ban on campus?
Pro or con?
Page 2

CAMPUS

Engineering Themes Month
sponsored an electric car demo.
Page 3

SPORTS

See how our Lady Hawks
are doing!
Page 6

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER
18, 2012

Volume 174 | Issue 3

technewsiit.com

TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

OPINION 2
CAMPUS 3
SLIPSTICK 5
SPORTS 6-7

Homecoming week across campus



By Katie Peters

COPY EDITOR & LAYOUT EDITOR

Sunday marked the beginning of Homecoming Week 2012, a week Homecoming programmers Kaylynn Barker, Brittany Crawford-Purcell, and Katie Peters have been planning for since April's Finance Board proposal.

This year's theme, Across the Universe, was chosen to be a 60s themed week because of the flexibility of the theme, and also to pay homage to this year's Golden class, the class of 1962. The 60s theme was followed in most events during the week, starting off with the Homecoming Kickoff Lunch in the Commons on September 12 that featured 60s classics such as Elvis peanut butter and banana grilled sandwiches, Sloppy Joe's, and tuna noodle casserole. Spirit Week started off with two favorite games from the 60s, and a lot of people showed up to play on the inflatable Twister mat and roll their friends in a giant ball down the human bowling lane. The rest of this week features a movie and game show set in the 60s, laser tag, and a create-your-own aquarium activity, because everyone likes free fish.

Student organizations are also encouraged to participate in window painting and the bike parade this year, which they can do by emailing kbarker@hawk.iit.edu. Window painting supplies can be picked up from the Union Board office (MTCC 221) in Office of Campus Life, and must be completed before judging on Friday, September 21 and completely cleaned by Monday, September 24.

The Homecoming dance on Friday will be a night filled with 60s decorations and starts at 9 p.m. in the Hermann Hall Expo Center with a DJ, photographer, and cash bar. The Homecoming Carnival on Saturday, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., features a variety of rides and inflatables and giveaways. The buffet of 60s food will include Yellow Submarine sandwiches, swedish meatballs, bugles, Tang, and Strawberry Fields jell-O salad, and the attractions include a Segway obstacle course, velcro wall, 60-second caricaturist, and free giveaways like custom license plates and spin art T-shirts.

A new activity, happening after the carnival, is a bike parade over to the women's soccer game that starts at 5 p.m. The bike parade is a partnership with the Office of Campus Energy and Sustainability in an effort to reflect the value of sustainability on IIT's campus, and also to allow for a greater participation in the parade. Anyone is invited to participate, and there will be a bike decorating table available at

the carnival.

Also featured at the carnival is a Beatles cover band that has been together for years bringing the joy of the Beatles to the Chicagoland area. Meet the Beetles is a group of four friends who exemplify the Fab Four through their music, personality, and appearance. Below is an interview with the four, who are excited to perform on our campus this Saturday. James Hondros appears as George Harrison (GH), Davey Justice as Paul McCartney (PM), Scott Carlson as John Lennon (JL), and Eric Jensen as Ringo Starr (RS).

KP: What inspired you to create your Beatles tribute group?

GH: Upon coming across my eldest cousin Elizabeth's Beatles scrapbook, her brother Tony and I became intrigued with the whole phenomenon and decided to first learn how to sing along with, then eventually play along with early Beatle records.

Later, it became important to do it well. We later decided to put a band of like-minded musicians together. What better way to share such a thing with scores of Beatle/music fans?

After years of practice we finally accomplished our goal!

JL: For years I have loved and respected the Beatles. And for years I would not have dreamed of touching their music because they did it so well I wasn't required!! Over time a friend wanted to start a band that was initially going to cover all aspects of the Beatles and their solo careers but in a low key fashion. Well, you can see how that went!! We ended up a full-fledged trib because we sent demos to different festival organizations who hired us and the only tunes we had recorded were Beatles songs. They all thought we were a tribute act and we then rushed to get all equipment and clothing matters handled and here we are now!!

KP: What is your favorite aspect of the Beatles legacy?

PM: The Beatles are and will always be the greatest band in the world. They were the ones to add stuff to their live performances to enhance a proper stage show. Their music is taught worldwide in schools. When I was on tour in Japan I learned that the Beatles lyrics were taught to classmates as a tool to learn American language. Their words also teach us to live and love. I will add one more quote, "When The Beatles first performed television on the Ed Sullivan show America paused their life to watch it. After that performance the world changed".



Images courtesy of preclectic.com & meetthebeetles.info

RS: How it endures & keeps building new fans, even teenage kids that you wouldn't expect to like them. My 3 year old son is a big fan too!

KP: How do you express your tribute to the audience?

PM: The Beatles can never perform again because of our loss with John Lennon and George Harrison. I detail Sir Paul McCartney with respect and honor channeling on stage his stage appearance, movements and performance. When it's done proper the audience feels the Beatlemania energy which intensifies the crowd to sing a long, dance and scream!

JL: I personally try to be as close to the character of John that I can possibly do. From how he stands, the instruments and their sounds and very hopefully the look, I want it to be an experience "with" The Beatles that excites, brings back memories but also is somewhat able to be "modern" in its own way. One great thing is to be able to have fun with our audience and banter with them as well as each other on the stage. We all just have a lot of fun!!

KP: What is your favorite part of being in the band? What was your favorite experience as a band? Do you have any funny embarrassing moments as part of being in the band?

PM: Once the set list was changed. I was on stage and there was no set list before my eyes. The stage got quiet and I realized "oh it's my turn to talk so i walked to the microphone and began to speak. I was really hoping someone in stage would whisper in my ear the next song as I spoke but nope. So as I spoke "Thank you. Thank you. Alright. Thank you. You doing ok love (speaking to a fan in the audience) Alright good. This next song is called" I looked at John and said, "what's the next song?" he replied, "All My Loving" with a cheeky laugh and I turn my head back to the microphone and said quickly "All My Loving" and sang "Close your eyes and I'll kiss you..."

GH: I have on more than one occasion started playing a completely different song all together than the rest of the band, quite embarrassing to me, (but funny to the other mates)!

Band Manager Nicole says "George's" most embarrassing moment was when he drove to Ohio on his way from Chicago to Louisville. Luckily they didn't miss the gig.

Don't miss out on this week full of free and fun activities! If you have any questions, email ubimpcatvps@gmail.com for more information.

Dance 'n' LAN party disappoints

By Kristal Copeland

COPY EDITOR

As an incoming transfer from a liberal arts college, I haven't been to any LAN parties, but I have been to many dances. I figured the Dance 'n' LAN party, hosted by Illinois Tech Robotics, LAN Party Club, Alien Sound and Lighting, and 33rd Street Productions, would be a great way to integrate myself from a more generic college party to another that was more my speed. So, on Saturday, I headed to the party right on time. From the balcony, I could only see an empty dance floor with many flashing lights, which I assumed was due to the party having just started. Going down the stairs informed me that I was wrong. There were several people already seated and playing video games, as well as some people who were sitting and eating some of the assorted snack foods and pizzas. I grabbed some food as they set up the projector for Portal 2, and Dance 'n' LAN commenced!

Watching people play Minecraft and League of Legends was fun until I finished eating, but after that I really wanted to dance. Unfortunately the floor was laughably empty. I decided to just walk up to the dance floor and run around like a maniac, arms flailing and everything, thinking someone would surely decide to follow and at least act crazy. Once again, I was wrong. No one wanted to dance, and very few people even noticed the insane girl running around like an idiot.

Disappointed, I returned to my chair. I sat for about five minutes before the group next to me started complaining about the lack of dancing. I told them I also wanted to dance, and we all decided to just head out in a group.

We danced for over a full hour; imagine four girls and two guys headbanging and jumping around hoping some other group would join us. There were a few times where something interesting happened—two groups of two sporadically appeared and left; sometimes different members of our group would sit down for a while before getting up and dancing again.

Eventually, the two guys left and there were four girls on the dance floor for more than 45 long minutes before anyone else appeared. Now, I know there are many geek stereotypes, but little says more than "all of the girls walk into a Dance 'n' LAN party . . . no one notices." Eventually, another much larger group appeared and everyone got up and danced, not to mention when Gangnam Style came on and we suddenly had more than ten extra people, but overall, the Dance half of Dance 'n' LAN was a bust.

I knew something similar to this would happen, but I was expecting a slightly larger amount of people on the floor at any given time. Either way, I got to meet people who do enjoy dancing at IIT, so sometimes it's fun to be in the minority.