Cross-country stays strong in competitions

By Kira Vincent **TECHNEWS WRITER**

Both the men's and women's cross country teams are off to a strong start this season. The women have three new freshmen, Amy Zasadzinski, April Wangas, and Isabelle Romero, in addition to eight returning runners. The men's team obtained two new freshmen, Konrad Sniezek and Landon Vowels, to add to their twelve returning members.

The women's team worked hard through the preseason, and their efforts have paid off. They received preseason votes, giving them a national ranking. On August 31st, both teams travelled to Elmhurst, Illinois, and the women competed well in the 4-kilometer race. They placed 4th out of 16 teams and were only points away from 3rd. Sophomore Abby Jahn led the lady hawks finishing 3rd overall in a time of 14:50, setting both a school and a personal record. Sophomore Courtney Rouse was

the next teammate across the line with a time of 15:07, a personal record, and she placed 7th overall. Continuing the streak of personal records, senior Kira Vincent finished in a time of 16:06 claiming the 31st overall place. Coming through in 42nd place with a time of 16:19 was junior Jordan Kelch. Finishing out the scoring for IIT was Anne Crotteau, who placed 56th with a time of 16:40. Junior Natalie Kruit and Amy Zasadzinski finished out the top seven with times and places of 17:32/78th and 17:59/92nd respectively. The women performed equally well the following Saturday at UW-Parkside, Wisconsin, placing 5th out of 19 teams in the 5 kilometer race. Abby Jahn finished in 4th, followed closely by teammate Courtney Rouse in 6th with times of 18:50 and 19:07 respectively. Next across the line was Jordan Kelch for the 21st place with a time of 19:43. Finishing out the scoring for the team were Anne Crotteau and Kira Vincent in places of 44th and 46th with times of 20:25 and 20:29 respectively. The strong finishes of the

women's team at both races has earned them the highest number of votes in school history, and they are currently ranked 23rd nationally.

The men's team had a strong showing through preseason despite the setbacks they faced due to having several of their top runners injured or just returning from injury. In the 6-kilometer race at Elmhurst, the men placed 8th out of 17 teams. Junior Phil Cano led the men placing 43rd overall with a time of 20:26. He was followed closely by teammates junior Ethan Montague and senior Kenny Murphy who placed 46th and 47th respectively, crossing only steps apart from one another and both running a time of 20:37. Senior Derek Burge-Beckley finished with a time of 21:30, earning him 67th place. Finishing the scoring for the team was senior Zach Gates placing 71st with a time of 21:33. Finishing out the 6th and 7th positions for the team were sophomore Colin McQuone and sophomore Peter Lau, finishing 106th and 107th with times of 23:07 and 23:09 respectively.

The men competed in the 8k at UW-Parkside, finishing respectably in 7th out of 15 teams. Phil Cano was the first hawk across the line with a time of 27:29 earning him 34th place overall. Ethan Montague was the next to finish in a time of 27:44 for a place of 38th overall. Finishing in times of 28:06 and 28:08 for 55th and 58th place were Zach Gates and Kenny Murphy respectively. The last member of the scoring team, Colin McQuone, came through in a time of 31:32 at 104th place. The 6th and 7th runners, Jefferey Somerfield and Andrew Montague, finished with times of 31:48 and 31:57 in 105th and 106th place respectively.

On September 22nd, both teams will be traveling to compete in the Wheaton "Gil-Dodd" invite. The women will be running in a 6-kilometer race and the men will be competing in the 8-kilometer race. Both teams have put in a lot of tough workouts over the past few weeks, and expect all their hard work to show in their upcoming competitions. Wish them luck as they go off to represent IIT!

Battle to the end, women's volleyball falls short

By Roma Mirutenko

TECHNEWS WRITER

Over the last two weeks the Illinois Tech women's volleyball team has been on a roller coaster, fighting for a conference win and a chance to compete with the top teams in the nation. Despite the fierce competition that the team has faced, they have been able to stand out and show that even though the team may

be small they are willing to fight for every point. On the weekend of Septem-

ber 7th, the Hawks traveled to Madonna University, Coach Jacque Gatt's alma matter, to play a tournament with teams from Michigan, Canada, and Illinois.

The tournament was very competitive but the Scarlet Hawks came in ready to play ending 3-1 at the end of the weekend. Captains Rebecca Bograd and Kate Kendall ended the weekend strong with 132 assists and 39 digs and kills, respectively. Sophomore standout Taylor Duman was named to the All-Tournament team ending with 34 kills and 10 blocks.

Coming off the high of that weekend, the Scarlet Hawks were prepared to fight their next opponent, Cardinal Stritch University from Wisconsin. Over the week, practice was devoted to becoming a better middle hitting team. Duman stated that, "This week was mentally challenging for us because we had to re-learn how to be a middle. We needed to

become faster and trust our training to do so." The game was a battle to the end, but Tech fell short, losing the match 2 to 3 against a strong outside hitting team. Du-

man and Kendall both posted 12 kills, Junior Roma Mirutenko posted 13 kills and Bograd provided 40 assists. The Hawks look forward to playing again this week with away at Trinity International University on Tuesday, and Judson University at home on the 20th.

Premier League Soccer back in action

By Nathan McMahon

TECHNEWS WRITER

The Premier League was back in action this weekend after last week's international break. A matchup between Norwich and West Ham ended in a 0-0 draw and was overall a rather uneventful match. Norwich sat one point out of the bottom three, with three points, while West Ham sit on the other end of table with seven. In an absolute thrashing, Arsenal beat Southampton 6-1. The goals for Arsenal came from Theo Walcott, Lukas Podolski, and two from Yao Gervinho. Southampton received a bit of bad luck as they conceded two own goals from seven points. Fulham won three points afdeflections. However, Arsenal players were al-

lowed much too much space, which allowed for the crosses that cost them their own goals, so Southampton was not doing itself any favors. Arsenal has now moved into third place, with eight points, while Southampton continues their struggle to adapt to life in the top division. They sit at the bottom of the league table and have yet to register any points.

Aston Villa claimed a big three points jumping to the middle of the table after defeating a strong Swansea side 2-0. The Villans received quality performances from goal scorers Matthew Lowton and Christian Benteke. Swansea has now dropped two places and sits outside of the top three with ter defeating West Brom 3-0 with two goals

from the recently signed Dimitar Berbatov. The other goal came courtesy of midfielder Steve Sidwell. Goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer kept an impressive clean sheet with seven saves. Fulham now has six points, while West Brom sit one point above them with seven.

Manchester United put on a show against Wigan Athletic in a 4-0 win with goals from Paul Scholes, Alexander Buttner, Nick Powell, and Javier "Chicharito" Hernandez. United now sits in second place behind Chelsea with nine points, while Wigan has four.

One of the more surprising results was Queens Park Rangers getting a 0-0 draw with Chelsea, who had failed to drop a point until this match. Chelsea remains at the top tom three with one point to their name. of the table with ten points, and QPR still re-

sides in the bottom three with a mere two. A struggling Liverpool side only managed a 1-1 draw with Sunderland. Goals came from Liverpool's Uruguayan striker Luis Suarez, and Sunderland's Scottish forward Steven Fletcher. Liverpool dominated but failed to take the three points. Liverpool now has two points following a miserable start to the campaign.

After struggling with two draws up until this point, Tottenham put on a dominating performance in a 3-0 victory over a newly promoted Reading side. Goals came from Gareth Bale and two from Jermaine Defoe. Tottenham now sit in the top half of the table, while Reading remain in the bot-

Lady Hawks begin to find their form

By Heather Bickerton STAFF WRITER

The Illinois Tech women's soccer team were on the road this week to South Bend, Indiana to face the Bethel College Pilots. Unfortunately for the Scarlet Hawks it seemed that their current run of lackadaisical performances was to continue after the Pilots dominated the first half.

Despite this, IIT found some energy and life in the second half - possibly spurred on by Bickerton's new shiny and vibrant cleats - and fought their way back into the game, despite the ultimate loss.

Bethel's first goal came when Nicole Steller intercepted one of the Hawk's passes which led to a breakaway and a fine goal from the forward, who blasted the ball past IIT's Amy Arnhart in the goal. Only seven minutes later, Steller found the net once more after placing a ball through the Hawks' defence from the edge of the six-yard box. The Scarlet Hawks had moments of creativity once they calmed down on the ball and passed it around, however no real chances emerged for the visitors.

The second half was a completely different game as Illinois Tech began to connect and look like a team that wanted to fight for something. Senior Lauren Capuano weaved her way through the Pilots' defence to find Junior Mariah Kuitse on the back post who slotted the ball in, much to her surprise. This goal lifted the team tremendously after little action in front of the goal in their last few performances.

Fifteen minutes later after pummelling Bethel's goal, the equaliser came when Veronica Torres released a rocket fresh from the NASA space centre into the top right corner of the goal.

The game was incredibly close, the ball constantly going back and forth between the two teams jockeying for a win. Unfortunately for the Scarlet Hawks an unlucky incident in their own box led to McPherson slotting the ball in off the right post for the lead. "After a disappointing start trailing 2-0, the girls fought back to tie the game and had chances to take the lead," stated Head Coach Marc Colwell. "If we come out and play a full game the way we did in the second half we will find success."

Despite the loss, it seems that the Lady Hawks have finally found their rhythm and they are looking forward to building on this performance in their next game at home vs. Taylor University.

Come out and cheer on your Illinois Tech Women's Soccer team on Wednesday, 7pm as they search for their first win. The ladies are also playing on Saturday September 22nd for Homecoming and Senior Day.