

## TechNews

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McCormick Tribune Campus Center  
Room 221  
3201 South State Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60616

E-mail: editor@technewsit.com  
Website: http://www.technewsit.com

## TechNews STAFF

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of TechNews is to promote student discussion and bolster the IIT community by providing a newspaper that is highly accessible, a stalwart of journalistic integrity, and a student forum. TechNews is a dedicated to the belief that a strong campus newspaper is essential to a strong campus community.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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## SUBMISSIONS

TechNews is published on the Tuesday of each week of the academic year. Deadline for all submissions and announcements is 11:59 p.m. on the Friday prior to publication. Articles, photos, and illustrations must be submitted electronically to the TechNews website at technewsit.com.

## EDITORIAL POLICY

The editors reserve the right to determine if submitted material meets TechNews' policy and standards.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor may be submitted by anyone, but are subject to review by the editor-in-chief. All letters-to-the-editor become the property of TechNews upon submission. TechNews does not accept or publish anonymous letters.

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# 2nd Annual Fall Festival brings comedians, bands to campus

By Katie Peters

COPY & LAYOUT EDITOR

Programming a successful program on IIT's campus can be difficult sometimes. While diversity on this campus is something to be proud of, it is hard to appeal to everyone in such a diverse community.

That problem is what inspired the Union Board's first annual Fall Festival, the first event of its kind for the group. The event is a festival full of variety and music, motivated by Union Board's successful trip to the National Association of Campus Activities conference last spring. This year's Fall Festival is on Saturday, October 6 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the field north of Carman Hall.

The festival, emceed by The Solo Circus Michael DuBois, features well-known performers such as America's Got Talent's pop violinist Lindsey Stirling, and less well-known but just as talented comedians like Omid Singh and Samuel J. Comroe from the TNT Comedy Tour (which you should ask about when you see them on Saturday). The festival will also feature two bands: Young London, who went

on a tour national tour with Warped Tour, and Windsor Drive, who recently toured with He is We. All of the performers are very excited to perform on campus, and are looking forward to the Chicago backdrop.

Because the festival is brand new, it is drawing in crowds with great freebies: the first 100 people to arrive will receive a free blanket, the next 50 people - and various people during the festival - will receive tickets for food truck samples when the food trucks arrive at 6 p.m., and a raffle with multiple gift cards starts at 6:45 p.m. Around 150 food truck samples will be given out, and they will also have their regular menu, so be sure to bring your food money!

I was also able to interview Young London singer Matt Rhoades, who performs lead vocals with Sarah Graziani:

**Katie Peters:** What inspired you to start the band?

**Matt Rhoades:** For me it was Sarah's voice. Hearing her voice recorded really made me want to write songs as a group.

**KP:** What was your favorite part of Warped Tour 2012?

**MR:** Sarah would say catering; she still talks about it daily. There was a vegan chef

on the tour who made at least 3 meals a day. It was crazy!

**KP:** How do you express your passion to the audience?

**MR:** For me, I can't contain my excitement to the audience. I am proud of the music we write and produce, so when people are watching I'm smiling, yelling, or jumping the entire time.

**KP:** If you could play in a band with anyone anywhere in the world, who and where would it be and why?

**MR:** I would only want to play with Sarah and my band. Honestly, I wouldn't enjoy it if it weren't my own thing. But I'd love to play in Japan this year; I love the culture. They are excited about art and have great food.

**KP:** Do you have any funny embarrassing moments that the band had?

**MR:** Almost too many to remember at this point. We don't take ourselves seriously, so every night it's a new adventure. One time, I tried to make small talk with the guitarist of Taking Back Sunday at breakfast. I choked and just made an omelet flipping motion. He was weirded out. I really blew that relationship!

## Vedic Vision Society: God-ism

By Sneha Saraf

STAFF WRITER

Last week the speaker talked about two realms of existence- the relative (this one) and the absolute. The absolute realm cannot be accessed through the relative instruments of the five senses, mind and intelligence. These instruments are designed for us to access and understand the relative realm and that too within limitations. To understand the absolute realm we need an absolute source that has no source.

Speaker Nityananda Pran started by giving the definitions of God: 1) the cause of all causes and the ultimate source of everything that exists, 2) the supreme controller, 3) the supreme proprietor, and 4) the supreme enjoyer. For example, if one has money, that person is the proprietor, and therefore he controls how he spends and enjoys the benefits. So everything that exists has a source that has a source, and the ultimate source is the proprietor, controller and enjoyer of everything.

Just like a nation's government makes up the law of the land, similarly there

are universal laws like gravity, time, seasonal changes, etc. that exist. We see organization in nature, such as with the planetary systems. So logically, if there is law, there must be a lawmaker; if there is organization, there has got to be an organizer.

We don't look at a car and marvel how it happened to exist on its own. Rather we give due credit to the engineers, designers and electricians who designed and engineered the car. What is the probability that if we take out every part of a watch and throw it up in the air, everything will fall perfectly in place and the watch will start ticking again?

He went further to state that in the mechanistic view of life we try to understand the laws and how they work without any interest in the source behind all this. Vedas not only give us how things work but also why and where it all came from and who put it together. When we go to someone's house for dinner, someone might just eat and leave, whereas someone else might thank the host for making a nice meal.

The Vedic view is that of gratitude, where if we are benefitted we should try to understand who is benefitting us. We are all beneficiaries of facilities like air, water, light, food and so on.

Then the speaker went on to explain the three aspects of God, namely Brahman, Paramatma and Bhagavan. Brahman refers to the all-pervading, un-manifested, impersonal aspect of God. Paramatma refers to the localized aspect of God that resides in every living entity that we sometimes identify as inner voice or intuition. Bhagavan refers to the complete absolute personality of God who is an individual. All these three aspects exist simultaneously.

He concluded by saying that this world is not meant for our exploiting it. Rather the resources are given to us to express our gratitude by using these resources in service to the source, the cause of all causes, which the Vedas refer to as Krishna or all-attractive. He described the secondary aspects of God being majestic, creator, proprietor, knower and enjoyer.

The primary aspects of God is His sweetness of being a dear friend, most lovable person, master, child, etc., where He invites us to have individual relationships with Him so that we can be God-loving persons instead of God-fearing.

As always, all discussions are video-recorded and available on the facebook.com/vedicvis.

## Chicago-Kent offers sustainability-related law degrees, specializations, courses

By Nicole Glick

TECHNEWS WRITER

The Illinois Institute of Technology's Chicago-Kent College of Law has been established in environmental pursuits since the 1980s, and is now "the only ranking environmental law program in the Midwest," according to the Journal of Environmental and Energy Law. Some of the notable environmental programs and activities offered at Chicago-Kent are the Chicago Environmental Law Clinic, the Juris Doctorate certificate program in Environmental and Energy Law, the Journal of Environmental and Energy Law, and the Environmental Law Moot Court.

According to the website, The Chi-

cago Environmental Law Clinic, which originated in 1989, was "to enable people confronting urban environmental problems to have equal access to environmental justice." The Law Clinic provides education, support, and volunteer services for the health, safety, and welfare of communities affected by environmental concerns. Someone looking for advice from a consultation, negotiations, or representative actions can find what they are looking for at the Law Clinic. Additionally, there is a certificate program in Environmental and Energy Law. The Chicago-Kent College of Law is recognized as a leader in this field, with one of the first established programs in environmental and energy law.

With externships (job shadowing)

and clinics, there is a practical application as well as a thorough understanding of scientific, economic, and ethical concepts of environmental and energy policy. Furthermore, Kent publishes a Journal of Environmental and Energy Law online. This publication presents professors, attorneys, and students with a medium with which to deliberate environmental law. Finally, as a tribute to the Program in Environmental and Energy Law, Chicago-Kent sends a team every year to the Pace Law School National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition.

The Chicago-Kent College of Law has and will continue to be at the forefront of preparing students for the legal issues regarding environmental and energy law.