

# TechNews

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF  
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Our mission 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 dedicated to the belief that a strong campus newspaper is essential to a strong campus community.

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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 [technewsiit.com](http://technewsiit.com).

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# Luxembourg stuns visitors with views, activities

**Neesha Narayanan**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

Luxembourg is a place with an impressive mixture of culture and a rich historic past. It was not until my second visit to the beautiful city that I came to know that Luxembourg is an independent country. The first time I visited, I was in high school. I was lucky to get the opportunity to go see Shakespeare's "Hamlet" at The Grand Théâtre de Luxembourg. It was an amazing experience to see famous artists perform at such a great theater. But what was equally amazing was my walk the next morning.

I was staying at one of many youth hostels, which are an affordable option for students who travel a lot in Europe. The youth hostel was very close to a place called Pétrusse Valley, which, according to me, is one of the most breathtaking views in Luxembourg that presents the old quarters and fortifications in a striking natural environment. Walking in the preserved fortifications always inspires a historic feeling.

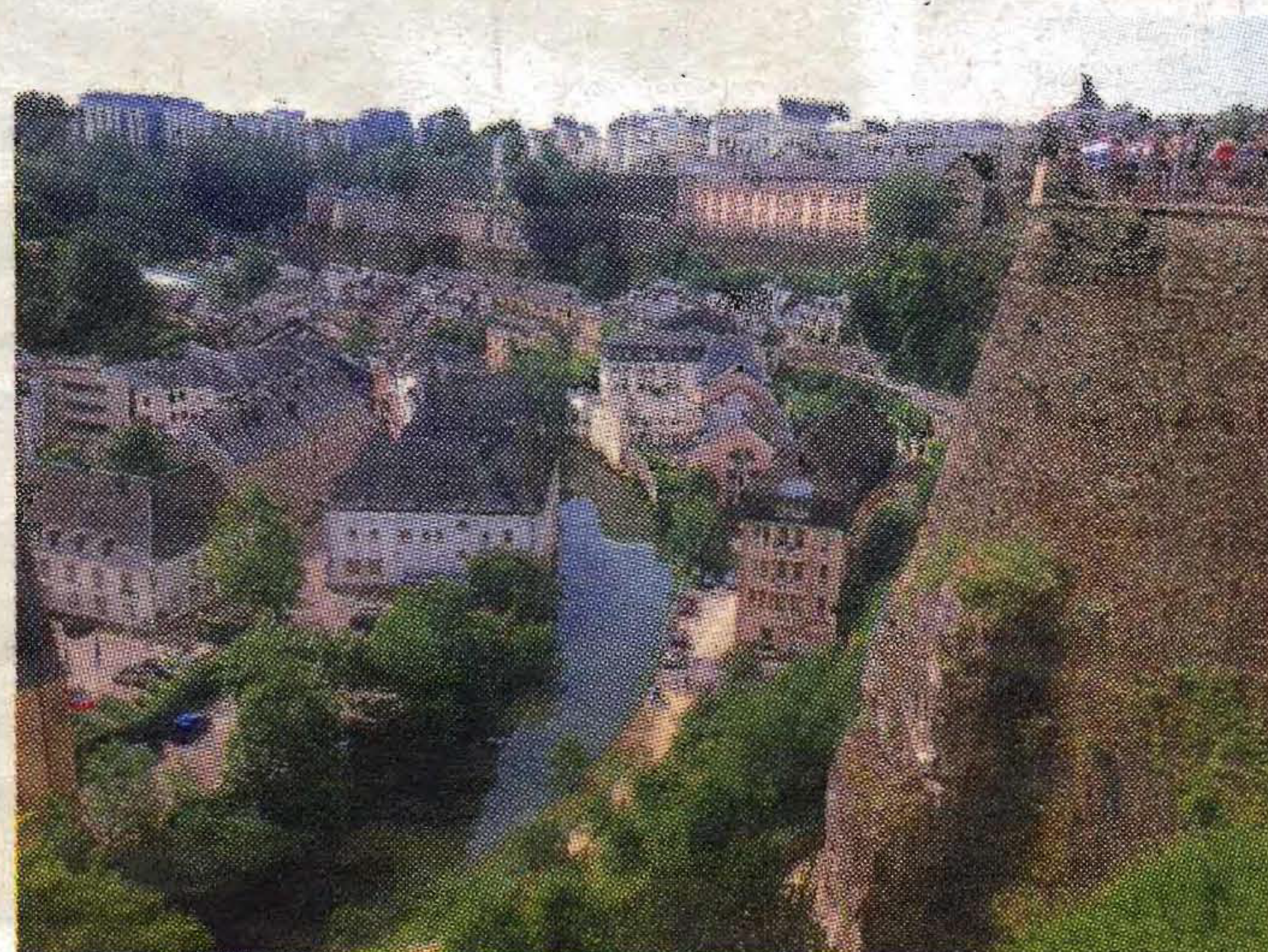
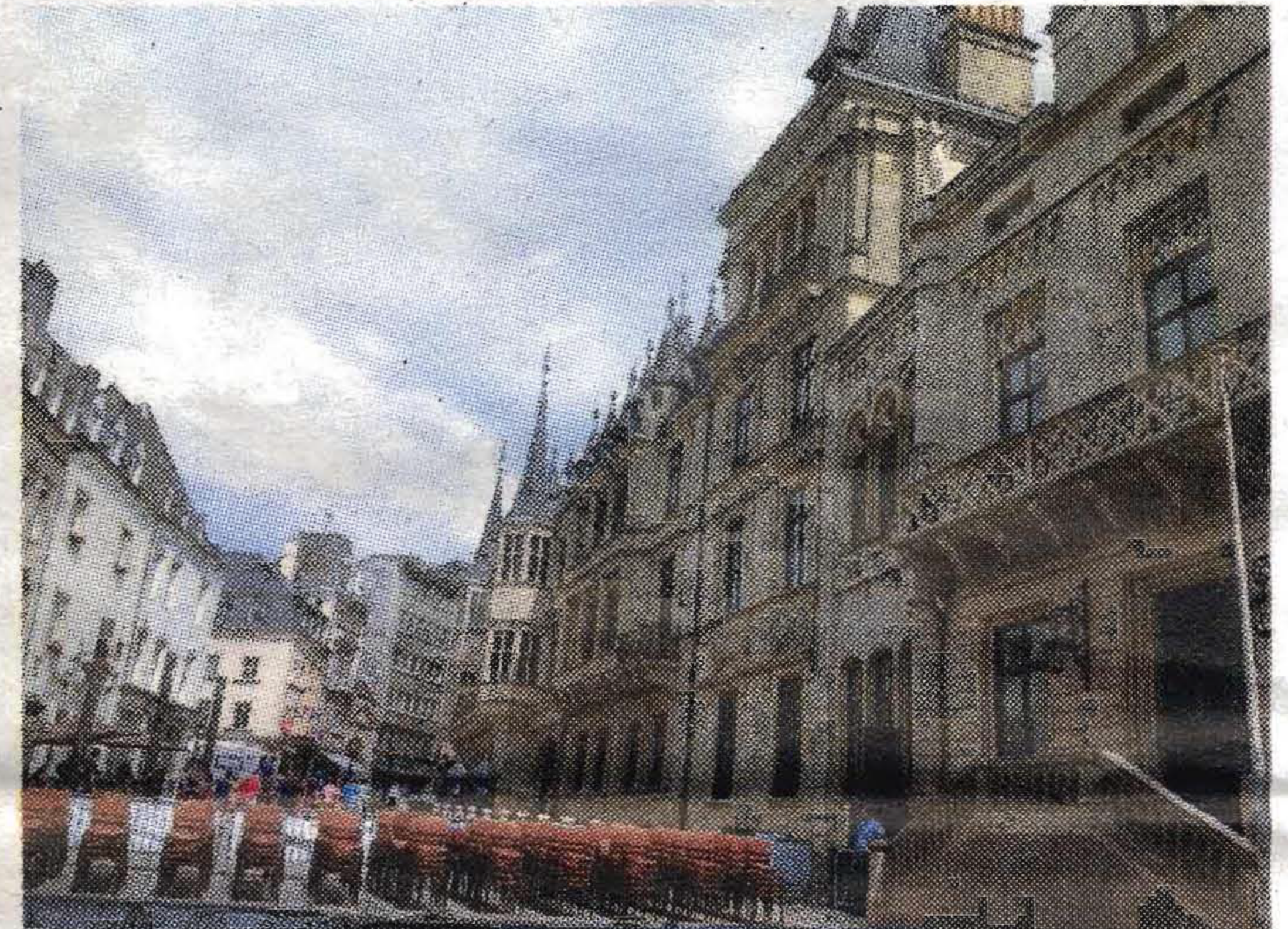
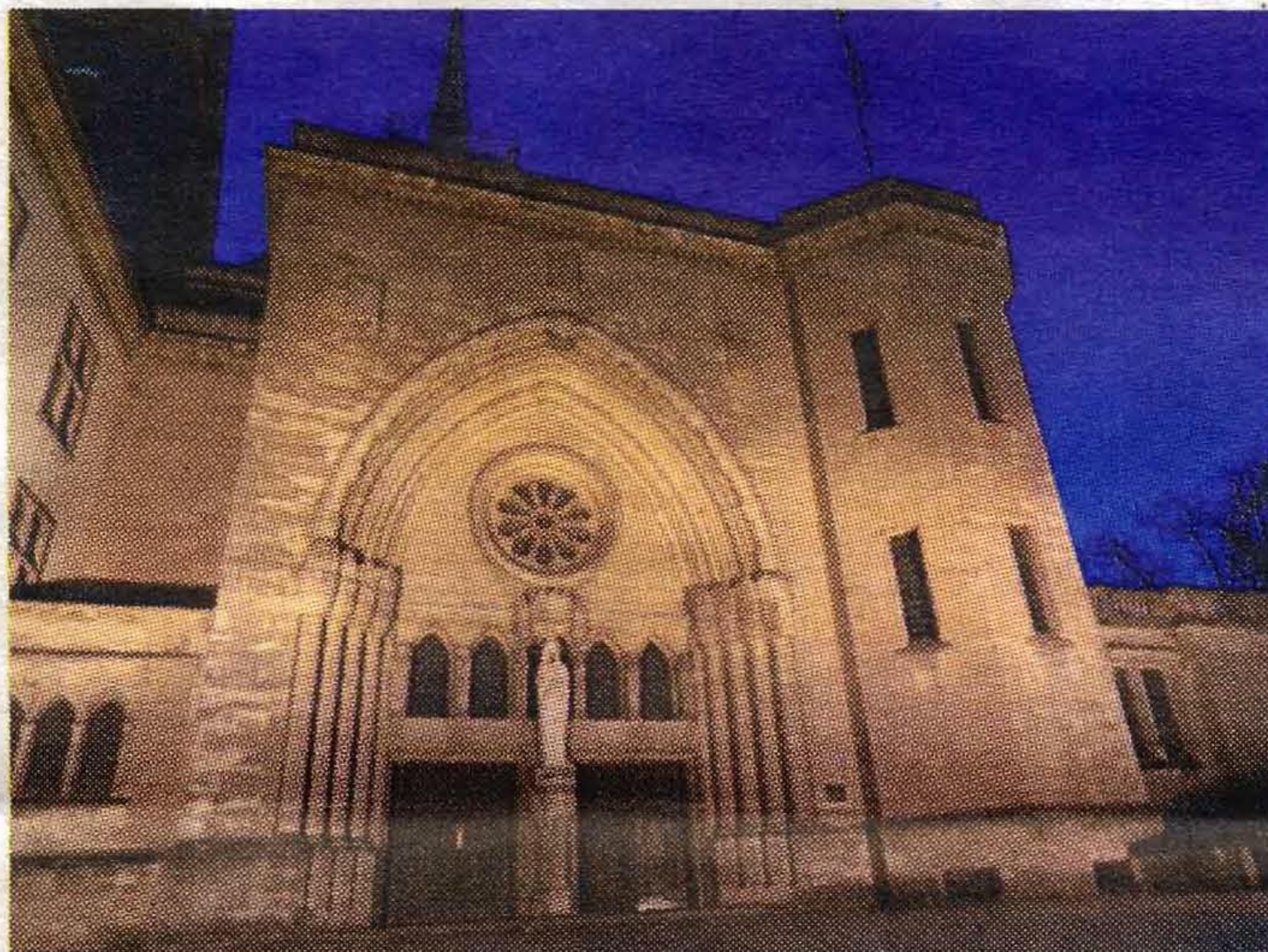
My second visit was this summer and I was not surprised that I remembered the mesmerizing view. This time I had the opportunity to explore the city in detail. The Valley is named after river Pétrusse that flows through Luxembourg. In the early 1800s this valley was used for reinforcing fortification for protection. The place now has a tour for tourists that shows the hidden corridors and casemates where canons were placed and also the planning and architecture involved while building the structures. Parallel to the river is the Neumünster Abbey, which is a public meeting place and also a cultural center. Its massive courtyard was proof enough of its eligibility to handle an immense crowd.

Another publicly oriented place is the William Square, which is situated south of the Grand Ducal Palace. The place experiences a lot of public attention especially during the summer. The William Square accommodates not only the Town Hall but also various markets, open air concerts, shops and eateries. In the center of the Square is the statue of William, founder of the Square.

The Palace is residence of the Grand

Duke of Luxembourg and its facade is one of the most beautiful creations I have seen, which involves Flemish Renaissance styles. The general public can visit the majestic interiors of the palace during the summer. I would recommend visiting this city during the summer as there are numerous activities taking place and most of the significant places are open to the public. Another significant place to visit is the Notre-Dame Cathedral, which is the only Roman Catholic cathedral in Luxembourg. It remains a good example of gothic architecture. With gigantic pillars and beautifully presented church organ and stained glasses, the place has a fine looking interior—a good place to start exploring the architecture of the city.

I still feel the need to make another trip or two to Luxembourg, as there are too many things to explore in such a small but historically rich place. The places that I covered are all in southern Luxembourg. I will probably visit the gorgeous place again next summer to explore other parts of the country and enjoy the Luxembourg cuisine which is influenced by German, French and Belgium cuisines—a deadly combination indeed.



Photos by Neesha Narayanan