**CAMPUS**
'Person you should know' continues with Ryan C. Miller!
Page 3

**A&E**
Kyle goes to White Castle.
Page 8

**SLIPSTICK**
A very spoooooooky comic!
Page 9

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2013**
Volume 177 | Issue 8

technewsiit.com

# TechNews

*Student newspaper of the Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928*

# Smooth sailing for annual RHA Boat Cruise

**Kyle Stanevich**
STAFF WRITER

Where could you eat, dance, and gamble all night (excluding Vegas)? At the annual Boat Cruise organized by the Residence Hall Association (RHA)!

Boat Cruise was held last Friday at Navy Pier once more on the most luxurious of floating vessels, The Odyssey. In the dead of night Navy Pier is quite spooky, lacking the sea of tourists, sounds, smells, and lights that usually are almost overbearing. Departing on one of three buses from Illinois Tech to the Pier, after a short walk down the deserted pier, the grand lights of the boat in the distance could be seen, beckoning partygoers for a night of fun.

Towering above us and the other boats of the pier, the magnificence of The Odyssey is truly a sight worth seeing. Its four stories featured all the entertainment you could need for an evening on the lake; the casino on the bottom, two floors above for dancing and food, and a top outside deck offered something for everyone to enjoy. That night you could be sure that you were at the best part in all of Chicago.

After everyone was aboard, the party officially started. The food was brought out, the music started, and the casino opened up. The tantalizing bites available were some of the best meatballs, mini hamburgers, and pulled pork sliders around with no one being left out. Plus there were tables piled to the ceiling with any sort of desert imaginable. The music was pretty good, playing many recognizable songs, but this would not be important until later on in the night.

After grabbing a quick snack, most people congregated in the casino, where each person was treated with 500 chips to play to their heart's content. The goal was, just as all casinos, to make more than you came in with, but unlike regular, these chips could not be exchanged for cash. Instead, the chips could have been turned in for raffle tickets, which gave everyone a chance to win one of many fabulous prizes, including a laptop, 40 inch television, wireless headphones, a bike, and more.
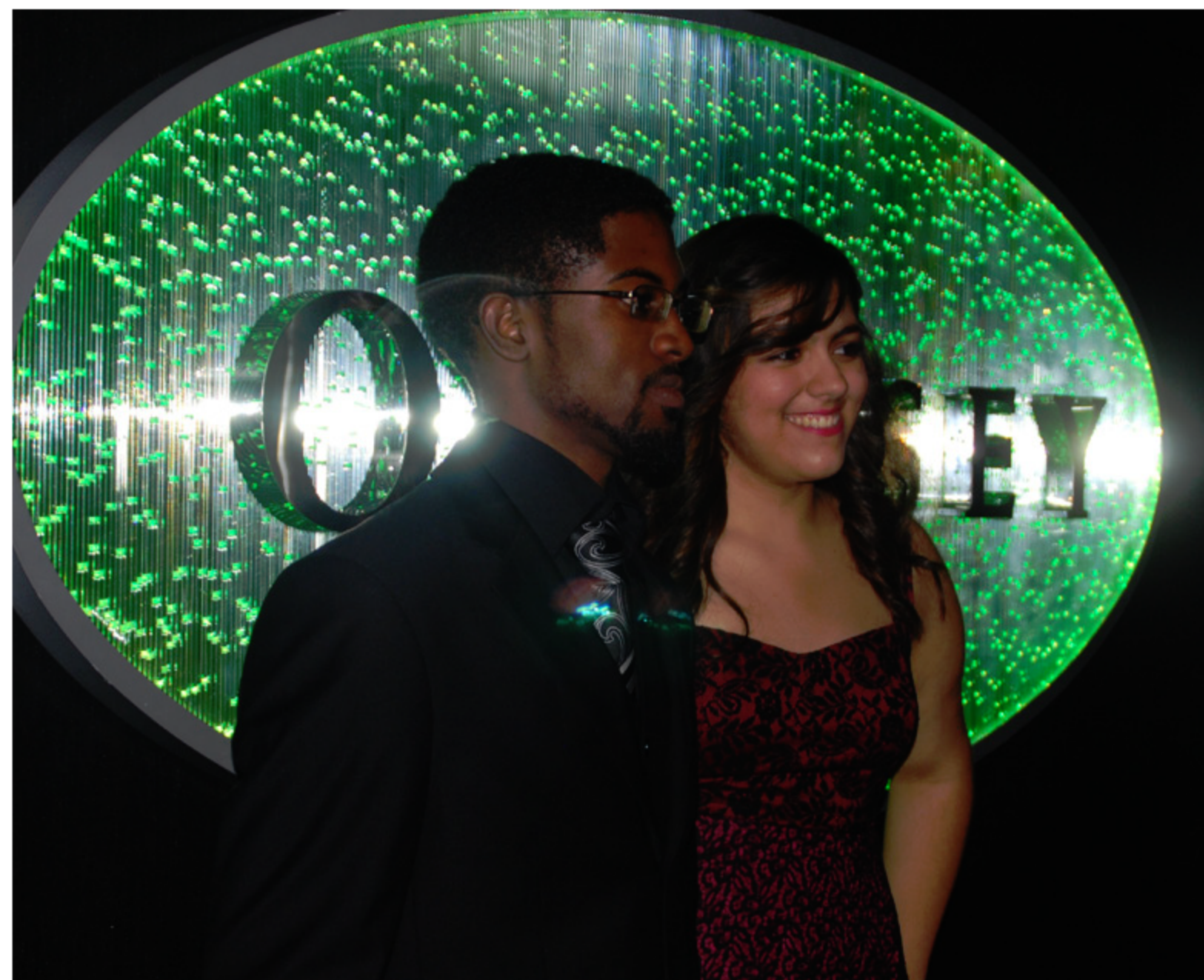
Many students did not know how to play the casino games offered. For example, there were quite a number crowding around the craps table trying to figure out how to play. There was no reason to worry about losing all the chips though, because the dealers went easy on them and explained the game as they played. The casino was a huge aspect of the night, where it seemed most people spent their time.

After closing the casino down, everyone cashed their chips in for raffle tickets, and headed up to the two dancing decks to boogie down while waiting for the winners to be pulled. The winners of the raffle were called, their prizes claimed and then the boat was exited. The sleepy IIT students returned to campus at four in the morning, ready to hit the hay and sleep in the next day.

There were many other activities on the boat. Photographs wearing a mask of the Queen of England and other famous Europeans were taken by a cutout phone booth. Although it was a chilly night, those who wanted to relax were able to do so outside the top deck of the boat where the view of the Chicago skyline was spectacular, better than any place in the city without the need for a helicopter.

This amazing night could not have been possible without the funds provided by SAF and the hard work of all of the RHA members. They put in countless hours preparing the schedule for the night, communicating with the Odyssey staff and bus companies, and preparing decorations. If you see any one of them, be sure to say thanks. Each year their boat cruise keeps getting bigger and better. Make sure to come to this event next year, where once again you can gamble, win prizes, and party all night long.

*Photos by Travon Cooman*