

TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

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Illinois Tech Robotics finishes year of outreach at FIRST World Championship

Kori Bowns
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Illinois Tech Robotics (ITR) prides itself on being not only a student organization where members can learn new things and build exciting projects, but also as one where students have an opportunity to help others and make an impact by helping inspire children to pursue an interest in science and technology fields. Each year, ITR offers its members a variety of ways to get involved.

During this academic year, ITR students hosted two youth robotics competitions, volunteered at 11 youth competitions, mentored a high school robotics team, coordinated a season kickoff event for high school robotics students, and participated in public outreach events, including the Museum of Science and Industry's annual Robot Block Party, where exhibitors from around the world show off their creations to inspire museum guests. This academic year, ITR students donated over 2000 hours of their time to help thousands of younger students learn about futures in science and technology.

The vast majority of ITR's outreach and volunteer opportunities work closely with a youth robotics organization known as FIRST.

For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) was founded in 1989 by inventor Dean Kamen with the mission of showing students that science, technology, and problem-solving are not only fun and rewarding, but are proven paths to successful careers and a bright future for society. The organization achieves this mission by offering robotics competitions for students in elementary school, all the way through high school. The competitions value not only gaining engineering skills and creating useful machines, but also things like good sportsmanship, cooperation, teamwork, and something FIRST calls "gracious professionalism," a way of doing things where students learn and compete like crazy, but treat one another with respect and kindness in the process.

Last week, ITR volunteered at the final event of the FIRST Robotics season—the FIRST World Championship held in St. Louis, Missouri. The FIRST Championship takes up much of the space in the Edward Jones Dome, home of the St. Louis Rams NFL team, and America's Center, a convention center attached to the dome. More than 12 thousand students attended the event, as did thousands of additional parents, mentors, supporters, and volunteers.

Illinois Tech Robotics sent a delegation of 12 members to St. Louis to volunteer at the event, which ran from Wednesday, April 23 through Saturday, April 26. Members volunteered in a wide variety of ways that helped further the program and allowed them to interact with hundreds of young STEM enthusiasts over the course of the weekend.



Several of ITR's members volunteered as referees for the competitions, working with teams to ensure they follow rules of the games and having the tough job of keeping score for the fast-paced competitions. Other volunteered as inspectors to make sure team's robots met size, weight, and material specifications, and others volunteered in other ways, including resetting and repairing the playing field for each competition, running scoring system software, troubleshooting robot technical problems, and announcing play-by-play for the competitions as they progressed.

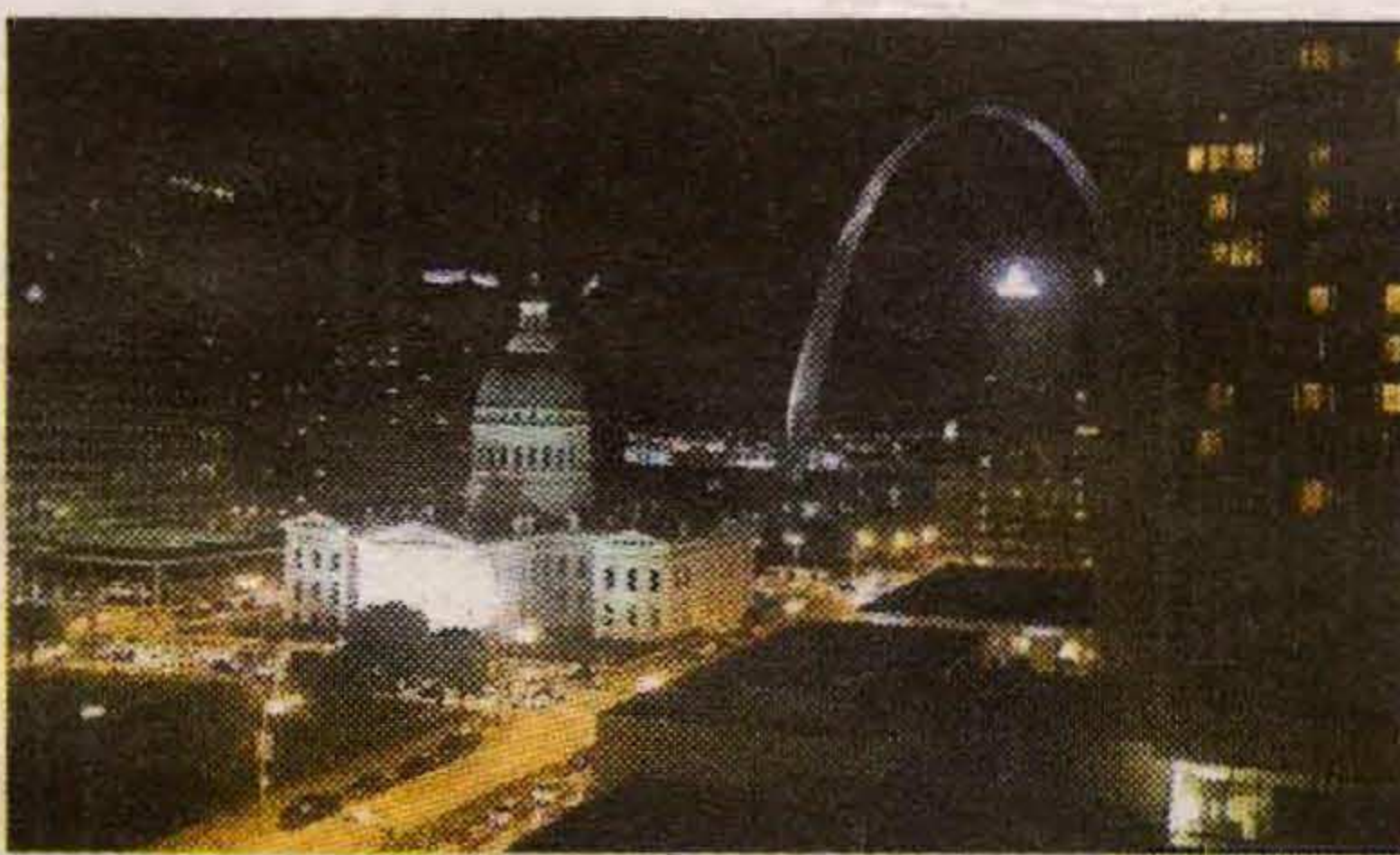
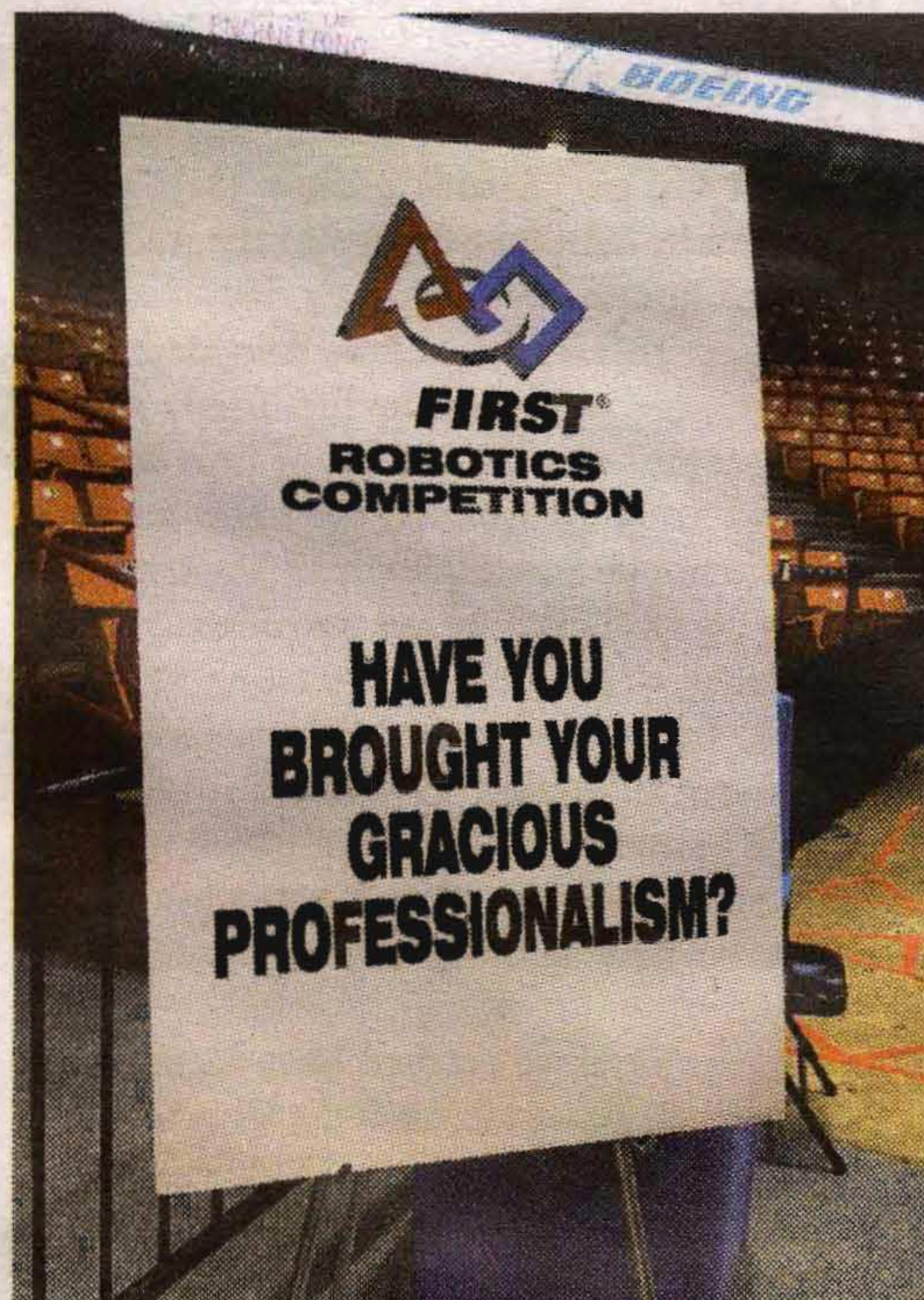
As always, ITR members enjoyed volunteering their time to FIRST, and had a great time working with the increased energy and competition that comes with the world championship event.

Ryan Tan, second year mechanical engineering major, volunteered for the first time at youth events with ITR this year. "My favorite part was the appreciation that the kids showed all of the volunteers," said Tan. "It was also extremely exciting to see kids in engineering and so elated to be working in a STEM field; I'm used to hearing everyone talk about how boring math and science are, so working with them and their cool projects is really a breath of fresh air. I'll definitely keep volunteering in the future; it was a ton of fun."

Ryan Kamphuis, fourth year physics education major and ITR's Vice President of Philanthropy, said: "it gives us the opportunity to inspire an interest in the STEM fields, which is not only something that the world needs, but we also have an interest in it because we go to IIT; it gives us an opportunity to volunteer alongside current, past, and future students of IIT."

Kamphuis also has more personal reasons for giving back to FIRST. "Being on a FIRST Robotics Competition team in high school was instrumental in bringing me to Illinois Tech, and I wouldn't be the individual I am today without that experience; I want others to be able to have it as well." A few other members of Illinois Tech Robotics are alumni of the FIRST Robotics program, and enjoy giving back to an organization that inspired them to pursue science and engineering futures at Illinois Tech. Kamphuis was also awarded the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award among hundreds of other volunteers in March at a local FIRST Robotics Competition event hosted at the University of Illinois at Chicago for over 50 student teams.

Illinois Tech Robotics is a strong and vital force in helping give students all over the world opportunities to explore innovative and exciting futures in the science and technology fields. For more information about Illinois Tech Robotics, visit their website at illinoistechrobotics.org or join their organization on HawkLink.



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STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SINCE 1928

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GENERAL INFORMATION

TechNews is written, managed, and edited by the students of, and funded in part by, Illinois Institute of Technology. The material herein does not necessarily reflect the opinions of Illinois Institute of Technology or the editors, staff, and advisor of TechNews. There will be no censorship of TechNews publication by the faculty or staff of IIT. Sole authority and responsibility for publication and adherence to the values set forth in this policy rests with the TechNews staff. This paper seeks to bring together the various segments of the Illinois Tech community and strives through balance and content to achieve a position of respect and excellence. TechNews strives for professionalism with due respect to the intellectual values of the university and its community. All material submitted becomes the property of TechNews, and is subject to any editorial decisions deemed necessary.

SUBMISSIONS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Shimer College cross-enrollment valuable to IIT students

Austin Gonzalez & Kyle Stanevich
OPINION EDITOR & BUSINESS MANAGER

It's no secret how great cross-enrolling at Shimer is as an Illinois Tech student. The change of pace is striking and dramatically different. Instead of lectures and PowerPoint presentations, you have discussions and instead of memorizing equations, you focus on the inception and refinement of your own ideas. It's usually a lot of fun, low stress, and enlightening, so if you're in town this summer and have time, why not knock out some humanities credits at Shimer?

These past two semesters, we have taken the film classes offered at Shimer, first Stanley Kubrick and now Alfred Hitchcock. Once a week, we would watch a

film, read some books and BOOM! A fantastic class discussion is born! The Shimer students are awesome to talk to. You never know what you will hear in the hallway, whether it be about the existence of aliens or famous German philosophers (or at least a billion others we've never even heard of) there is never a dull moment. And the class conversations are just as varied. While still structured in some sense, our discussions are usually free flowing, revolving around relevant assigned readings and film viewings. We cannot speak to the structure of the other classes, but it cannot be terribly different.

The idea of Shimer is much different than that of IIT. Unlike our technical college, they have a great books education. This means there are no lectures or mechanical textbooks, only primary

sources and conversation. And you will never find yourself overcrowded by people; each class has a cap at 12, just enough to fill up a table and keep the discussion intimate. Ideas will fly. Opinions will change. What you thought for sure before class will probably have changed. As IIT students, we can sometimes be caught inside our boxes. Shimer will definitely break you out of that rut and get you thinking again.

This summer Shimer is offering a multitude of courses in session A from May 19 to June 28, and in session B from June 2 to July 26. So get away from your computers, models, and textbooks, and sign up for a Shimer class. You'll love the way you learn, we guarantee it.

To find out more, go to IIT Today (or Google) and search for Shimer summer classes.

Trip to Iowa produces fabulous Easter

Shireen Gul
COPY EDITOR

Like every other college student, I promise myself every morning that tonight I will sleep early so I don't have to wake up with guilt. By the time you are done with your classes and work, you are so super active that you forget the promise that you made to yourself. Last Monday, I made this promise to myself once again and I did fulfill this promise by going to bed at midnight. I was about to sleep when I got an email, which made me so excited that I couldn't sleep and was all energetic again.

Now you must be wondering that what was that email about. Well, that email was sent to me by Jessica Sheley, who works with Bridges International and IIT to arrange different events for international students on and off campus, so they can help them improve their English conversation and have a better insight of their religion. She was arranging a trip to Iowa for the Easter weekend to experience some Amish and Mennonite culture and guess what? The only cost we had to pay for was the gas (about \$10 per person) because there were Mennonite families who hosted the students in their homes.

This was one of the best road trips I have experienced in my life. I only knew two people out of 14, but by the time we got there, I knew everyone (if you know me you should not be amazed by this.) The trip was very comfortable; we all introduced each ourselves to everyone and starting to learn quick, funny and witty words in each other native languages. We were also playing songs in our native language, which we had to translate to each other. It was a fun thing to do because the songs actually made sense to us.

Soon we reached Iowa Mennonite School, where we attended the Good Friday service. It was my first ever Good Friday service and I enjoyed it a lot, especially the singing part. I loved the way all the people were singing it, in one tone and with the same energy. To be honest, at first I thought it will be boring, but I thoroughly enjoyed every bit of it and would love to go back there next year. Once the services were over, we all were sent



home with our host families.

I was staying with a lovely couple named Edwin Miller and Mary Janes. They were simply adorable, as sweet as sugar and as caring as grandparents. It has been quite a while since I lost my grandparents, and this was a chance for me to relive that relation once again. I loved the way they took care of me and my friends. Although they usually go to bed early, that night they stayed awake for us to share their background and listen to us (or maybe just me because I talk a lot.) They showed us their family tree and shared their culture with us, which was again a good experience because although we come from different cultures but we had so much in common.

The next morning, we woke up early, had good English breakfast and left for church where we met our other fellow humans. We all sat in our vans and left to explore Kalona, IA. Though it's a small town, we had so much to see, especially the Amish Buggy. Every time we would see one, we all would start running toward it so we could take some pictures with it.

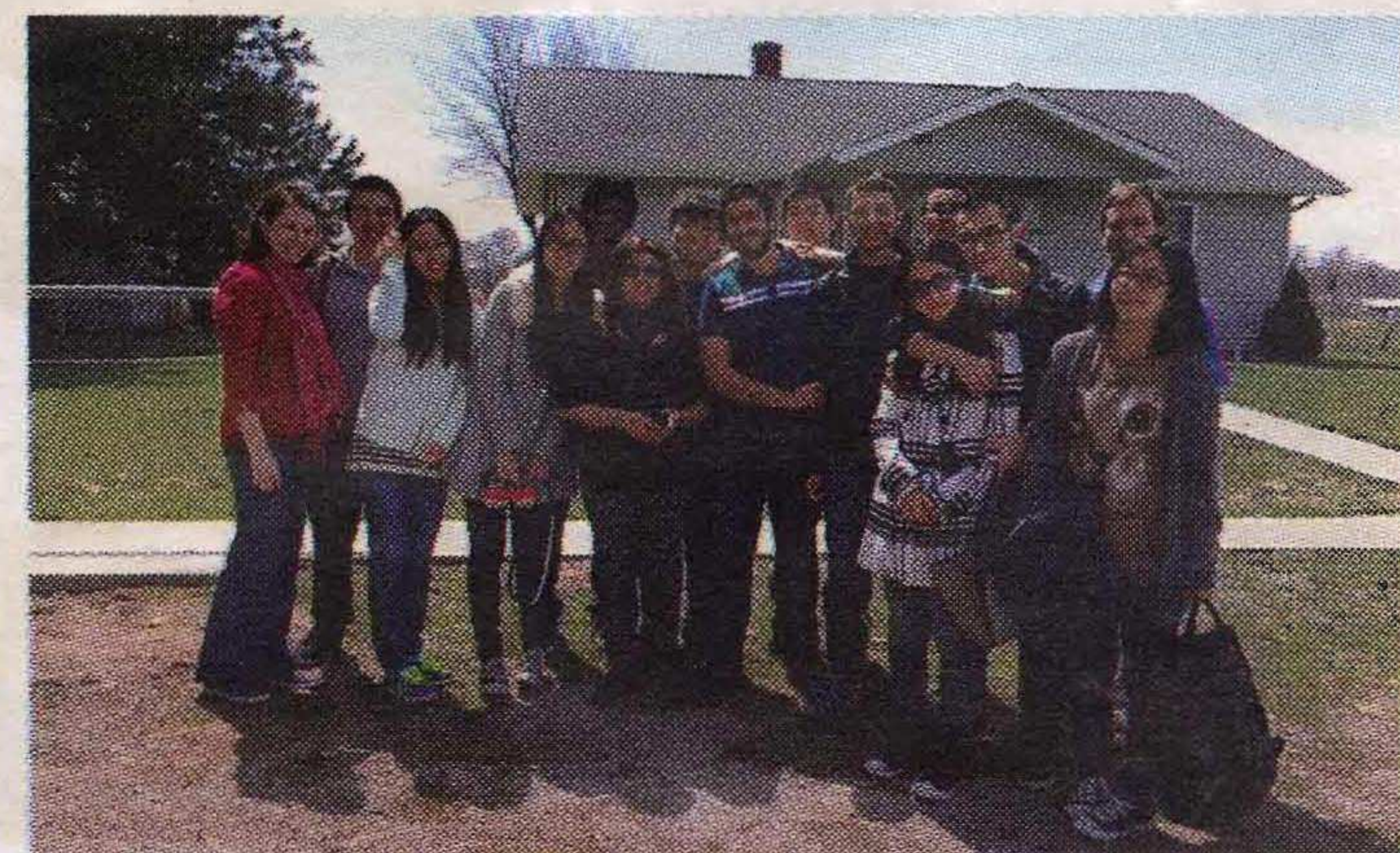
First of all, we went to an Amish Pastor, Vernon Yoder, who shared with us the background of Amish of people. He also showed us his house, where we learnt that even in 2014 people can live good life without technology and electricity. They also gave us some freshly baked Amish cookies

and later showed us their church and farm.

Then we went to a modern farm which was owned by Dave Yoder, another awesome person to know. He took us around his farm and shared with us how his farm works and how inflation has affected his business. He showed us some modern equipment used in farming. One of his pieces of equipment had such a big tire that even I could fit in it (you can see it in the picture.) From there, we went to an Amish furniture shop, JK Artisans, where they made beautiful wood furniture. We had a tour of the factory and the owner was such a lovely lady, she made sure that we understood everything about her and her business. They were so sweet that they also gave free souvenirs. But this was not the end of it; we also went to an Amish bakery where we tried their pies, oh my god! I wish I could explain how good they were. All of us just loved them. Before dawn, we also got a chance to go to a Cheese Factory, where we tried the free sample of every cheese they had and we also got some cheese curds. In the end, we returned to the church and watched a movie about Jesus. Soon, it was time for our host families to pick us up and we went back to them and shared our experiences.

Next morning was Easter morning, so we all had breakfast in the church with our friends and host families. The Pastor did a special prayer for all of us and thanked us for joining them on this big day. Then we went back with our host families and had our Easter dinner with them. Soon they all bid us farewell and we were on our way back home.

Everyone there was very loving and caring; we never felt that we were meeting them for the first time. I would like to thanks Jessica for arranging this awesome trip and Jeff Miller for helping her out to make things possible. And my special thanks to Edwin Mary Janes for bearing me and my long talks and loving me like their own kid. I could not have been more blessed, having them as my host family. Not only me, but each of us had very loving host families and we shall always remember them in our prayers. It was really good to experience Mennonite life. Once again, thanks Jessica and Jeff, you made our Easter the best Easter ever.



Photos courtesy of Shireen Gul

Develop new voice, old opinions at TechNews

Austin Gonzalez
OPINION EDITOR

I was going to write an article about the total experience of my first year, but instead of rehashing all of the things (especially the negative things) I've written about to this point, I figured I'd write about one of my favorite things on campus: TechNews.

During one of my first few days on campus there was an organization fair. Half the tables were empty and half of those that were there weren't doing much to grab your attention. TechNews was one of the few organizations bodacious enough to say "hello."

Hearing that I could write whatever opinions I wanted and that I could be paid for my submissions was a double whammy of awesome. After a year of writing, I still love TechNews, but for more important reasons.

They weren't kidding when they said I could write about whatever I wanted. Tech-

News will print students' opinions whether they're positive or critical. TechNews will even print critical articles even about itself, and all they ask is for it to be at least 350 words. No one will censor what you say and better yet no one wants to!

Everyone at TechNews is just happy to support the opinions of whoever wants to have them. Whether or not we agree with you, we aren't going to write off or silence your voice. No one is going to control what you hear and see as long as TechNews is around.

First week here? Want to write an article bashing the ENTIRE Humanities Department, or scream at the top your lungs about how expensive college is?

Done deal.

Whether or not it was smart to do that remains to be seen, but I did it! All TechNews did was say, "Here's your platform to scream off of."

TechNews brings real awareness to

problems and generates discussion. I've gotten response articles to things I've written about in TechNews twice now! I was even contacted by a start-up company to write an article about their product. President Anderson knows that I write for TechNews, not that I was an active member of SGA committees. TechNews does more to bring awareness to the issues we face on this campus than any other organization on campus. I have been recognized so many times on campus for my articles in TechNews, and all I have to do is choose to have a voice. I can't think of a better deal.

TechNews is a business. TechNews has been around for almost 100 years and sustains itself through ad sales. We generate content every week. We have the experience to ensure that the student opinion keeps getting out there for another 100 years. We print two thousand issues to be distributed across campus each week and issues are delivered to the President and the Board of Trustees.

No matter what anyone says, people are reading TechNews. Technewsit.com receives over two thousand hits per week.

TechNews is doing a great job taking care of itself.

I've heard some negative opinions about TechNews recently, but I think these people simply haven't taken the chance to meet us and see how we work. TechNews is one of the greatest things on this campus.

If you ever wanted the chance to talk directly to the president, TechNews is always ready for your submission. Without TechNews, there is no guarantee that opinions will be fully voiced.

Administration and teachers recognize the times I've written. TechNews exists for the student body and it's so important that it receives the support it deserves.

These opinions are my own, at TechNews I feel that I can be a part of something bigger and help make a better tomorrow.

146 people confirmed dead in South Korea ferry disaster

Shireen Gul
COPY EDITOR

There are times in our life when we think we are going through a lot of struggle and pain. While we think about this, something so disastrous happens right in front of us that we forget about our struggle and pain and all we think of is the pain that the other people are going through.

We are still not out of the trauma of the missing Malaysian Airlines flight when a ferry sinks in South Korea. The Sewol (name of the ferry) was en route from Incheon, on South Korea's Northwest coast, to the Southern resort island of Jeju when it turned sharply, listed and began taking on water. There were more than 300 people in the boat includ-

ing high school students.

Until now at least 146 people were confirmed dead, according to the joint task force leading the search. Earlier, when the death toll was reported to be 128, authorities had said that 174 people were still missing. The death toll had been expected to climb as divers were able to reach the ship's cafeteria, where many passengers were thought to be when the ship began to have troubles last week.

Just imagine how many people lost their loved ones in this tragic event. How many relations turn into memories which will always be associated with pain? How many parents lost their children, with whom they had seen their future? We sit here and complain that we are struggling because we don't

get good food or grades. How about those children who were struggling in that ferry for their lives, all because of one captain's mistake.

I feel sad and ashamed over those people who played stupid pranks by sending messages to the parents of missing children saying that they were still alive and wanted their help. Don't they have any emotions? Why do we always forget that what goes around, comes around? We have no right to play with someone's emotions especially during this crucial time when we know that they are wishing for some good news but some people are just so senseless that they want to play pranks with them.

I don't know about other people but for me such events are always an eye-opener. They let me reflect over my blessings and be

thankful for whatever I have. They teach me the importance of relations and the uncertainty of life. They teach me how easy it is to lose your loved ones and how hard it is to wait for someone who has been missing for a while. They teach me how people survive through pain and how hard it is for them to resume their lives once again.

All I want to say is, please try be good to everyone around you. You never know when a person we know becomes a person we knew. What's the use of living your life with guilt of not appreciating someone or something around you? All you have to do is to be a good person, not for others but for yourself because when you lose a relation, you are the only one who knows what you are going through.

Tales from the Victory Lap:

Graduation imminent, musings for commencement

Miriam Schmid
TECHNEWS WRITER

As graduation approaches and I prepare to leave IIT and start my career, I have been thinking about what I would say to current and incoming students.

It has been a long, challenging, awesome, crazy five years at IIT, so I should have learned something, right? So here it is, my commencement thoughts: three lessons I learned at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Number one. Life is about taking advantage of the opportunities you do have, not worrying about the ones you don't. When I came to IIT, I made a deal with myself that I didn't want to leave with regrets of things I should have done. I wanted to do well in school, get involved in organizations, make friends, and travel.

As I spent time at IIT, I took advantage of as many opportunities as I could traveling with ASB to Georgia twice, joining Alpha Sigma Alpha, exploring Chicago, doing re-

search, joining Union Board, getting involved with SGA, and making friends from all over the world and in all majors.

As I am graduating, there are few regrets of things I wish I hadn't done, and fewer that I wish I had.

Number two. Learn to work hard. My favorite quote to live by is: "Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity."

If an opportunity arises that you are not prepared for, it doesn't matter how amazing the opportunity is and how perfect the timing is. Especially as the dynamic, interdisciplinary world that we live in becomes even smaller as travel becomes less expensive and our communication tools improve, being skilled and flexible will increasingly lead to "lucky" opportunities to those who are prepared.

One of my "lucky" breaks at IIT started when I worked as an Orientation Leader my freshman year. I began playing ultimate frisbee with Ciaran Shaughnessy, and we became friends. Later that year, he mentioned that he was going to get an octopus to do re-

search with, and I began to ask more about it. We ended up taking Environmental Chemistry together, and our professor—his advisor—asked me to join their team in the CRABLab. Because I joined the CRABLab, I have met numerous Shedd Aquarium staff (my dream organization to work for) traveled to Alabama to do research where I met two of my best friends, and joined the Chicago Area Undergraduate Research Inter-School Board to plan the tenth annual CAURS Symposium. To make a long story short, play ultimate frisbee because you will meet incredible people. Seriously, you never know where your next "lucky" break will come from, so always work hard at the opportunities you have at the moment.

Number three. Never be afraid to speak up for what is right. Though it might be hard and you may be ignored or not taken seriously, do it. An Irish author and statesman once said: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

I want to always do what is in my power to stand up for what is right, regardless

of what the majority or popular opinion may be. My biggest regrets in college will be the times where I did not stand up when I should have because I was afraid to risk hurting my pride and getting out of my comfort zone. One of the toughest conversations I had was with a staff member asking her to support her employees better and be more understanding of the students at IIT.

Even though I feel as though my thoughts and concerns were brushed aside, I knew that I had stood up for what I knew to be right, and sometimes that was the most I could do.

So as you start your careers and professional lives or continue at IIT, just remember:

1. Don't ever pass up an opportunity
2. Work harder than you think you can at everything you do
3. Never be afraid to speak up for what is right

Thank you for an awesome five years and a lifetime of friends.

campus@technewsit.com

UTSAV GANDHI

CAMPUS

IEEE@IIT conducts elections, last meeting of semester

Vijai Baskar
COPY EDITOR

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) conducted their fourth and final general body meeting of the spring semester on Wednesday, April 23 in the Siegel Hall Auditorium.

This meeting mainly focused on the election of candidates to fill the executive board positions for the next year. The Treasurer of IEEE @ IIT, Rohit Agarwal started off the meeting by introducing the new National Instruments (NI) representative for the Chi-

ago region, Minh Tran, to the students. He also gave a brief introduction into the election process and also introduced the candidates to the audience.

Tran replaces the previous Program Manager at National Instruments, Dave Wilson. He works as the local field engineer covering Oregon. Tran spoke about the products and technologies currently in use by NI and encouraged students to use them in their projects.

The candidates running for the executive board positions were asked to give their speeches on why they should be elected and

what they hope to achieve out of their position at the executive board. The voting started immediately after the meeting and all members were asked to vote for the candidates. The results were announced at noon on Friday, April 25. All those who voted were sent emails about the results. Others can also look up the results on the website at ieee.iit.edu.

The IEEE @ IIT student branch has also been offered the privilege of hosting the IEEE region 4 Student Leadership Conference for the year 2014. This will be a huge event as IEEE members from the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska,

North and South Dakota, Ohio, Wisconsin in USA and Windsor Area in Canada would be participating. This event will be held during the month of October. The exact dates are to be announced soon.

A raffle was conducted at the end of the meeting and the winners were given gift cards towards renewing their IEEE national membership for a full year. IEEE @ IIT will sign off with this academic year by conducting a BBQ at the Siegel Hall field on Friday, May 2 at 12.50 p.m. The last tour of the semester will be a visit to a wind farm on May 10. Stay tuned for more details.

Letter from the [Campus] Editor:

4 years, & a gazillion articles later...

So, where do I start?

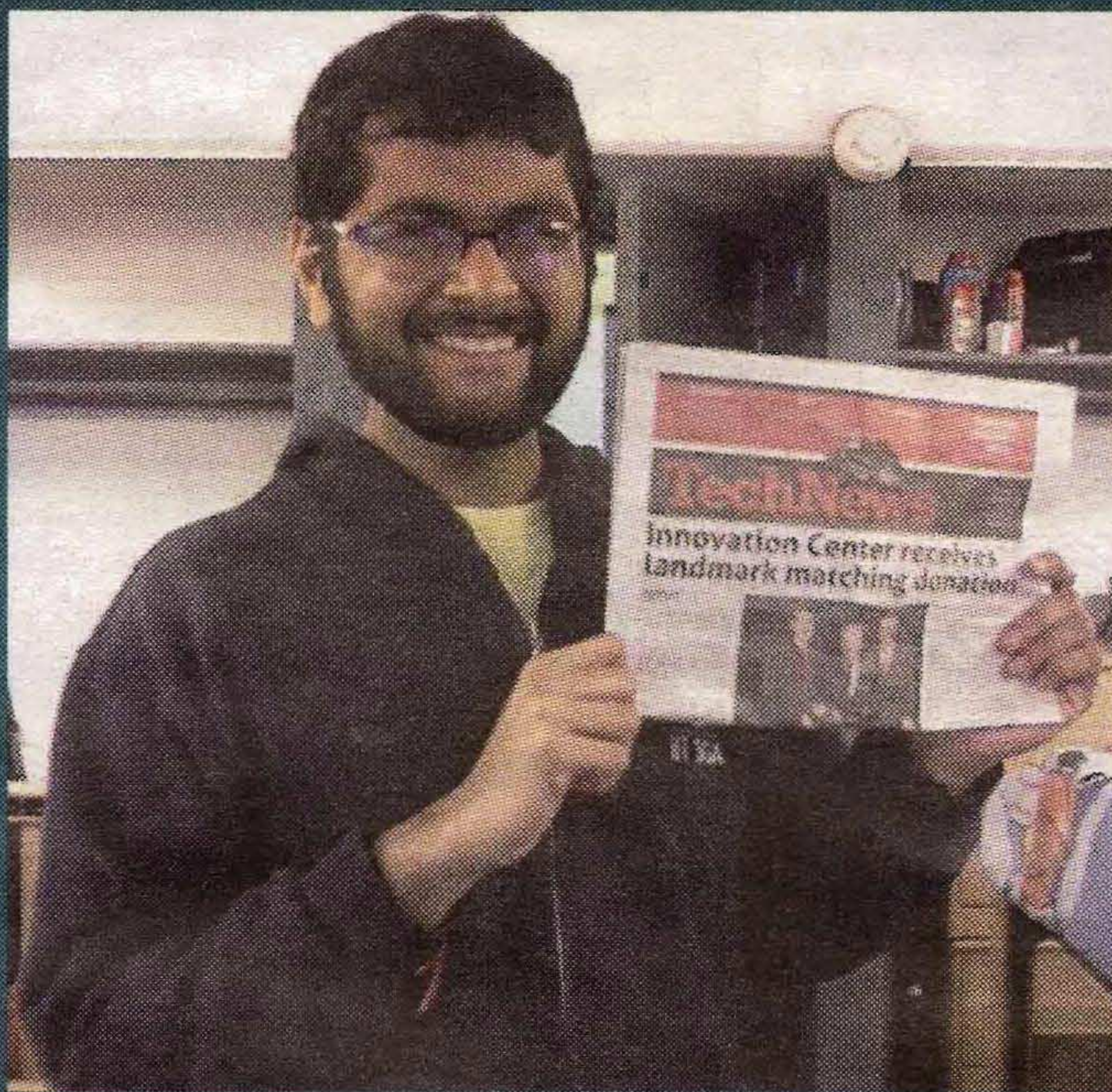
Oh right, (almost) four years ago. It was the very first meeting of TechNews for the academic year 2010 to 2011, and I was as literally fresh off the boat as could be. It was my first few days in the country, having just completed quite an overwhelming orientation session.

Kudos to the outreach efforts of the newspaper back then, and since then—we have managed to attract and retain some seriously committed talent. I was late to that first meeting of the semester; in fact, I reached there just as it was finishing up.

Back then, we had a Content Manager, who took one good look at me, probably judged me as naive, and not expecting me to stick around for very long, gave me an assignment. It was to research the best (and worst) on-campus jobs. I worked on this with a colleague, the story was published, and it felt special. I returned the next few weeks because it felt good to see my name on a tangible, university-wide publication. A few weeks later, a Bollywood superstar visited IIT, and because this was home turf, I covered the event so well that it made front page. There was no looking back after that.

I have seen TechNews at its abysmal lows (eight page issues with oversized and highly pixelated photographs to cover untapped space) as well as some glorious highs (16 page issues with contributors jostling for content.)

I have heard it being criticized, and on the other hand I have been recognized



Farewell to our Campus Editor, Utsav!

and appreciated (almost at celebrity status) because of TechNews (also because of my last name, but that's another matter.)

I have heard the statement ("But nobody reads TechNews!") way too many times to count, but what matters (and also, what is insanely satisfying) is that we made an effort to change things around. High school and college newspapers provide an incredible opportunity for students to improve their communication skills, voice their concerns and effect direct, hands-on change—and the

best part about TechNews was that it was so much fun to be involved with.

I have seen controversies erupt over criticism of departments and programs. I have seen an athletic scholarship that was taken away, be handed back because of an influential cover page article.

I have had fellow students come up to me and tell me how they learned something new about our campus simply because they picked up a copy one fine day to peruse during their free time. SGA elections, TEDxIIT, the President-Provost Forums, April

Fool's Issues, Semester Orientations (our Summer Issue, my absolute favorite), Homecoming—you name it, we've covered it.

And I am so proud to have been associated with it all.

TechNews will always remain an integral part of my IIT experience, it has taught me so much that I carry with myself wherever I go. I will miss the Sunday writer's meetings, debating the latest controversial campus policy, Academy Award nominations and the

major world events. Courtesy of the dynamic turnover I've seen over my time here, I'll miss all my fantastic coworkers, who have made me a better team player and instilled dollops of professionalism in me. I will miss the many writers, layout staff, distribution managers I have had the absolute privilege of working with, all of them equally passionate about their jobs and the paper itself.

A little confession may not be misplaced here: but people often tell me that they "see [me] everywhere on campus!" and that "everyone knows you!"—and while I would attribute most of this to how I try to make the most of my college experience (I know, it sounds corny, but are you surprised?), I also wanted to use my position at TechNews to make a difference. I feel incredibly privileged to have directly managed the Campus section, in the effort of spreading awareness of campus events and in the process, reinvigorating school spirit in the little way that I could.

As I leave TechNews, I leave it in the hands of younger and more vibrant individuals who I have no doubt will be able to carry on the efforts in motion since 1928—because, no matter what, TechNews will always hold a relevant space in our campus community.

I genuinely thank you all for bearing with my ramblings for four years, and for helping TechNews achieve its mission along the way. Keep reading, keep supporting, and most importantly, keep contributing.

Thank you!

- Utsav Gandhi

CAMPUS EDITOR

IEEE@IIT attends Transmission & Distribution conference

Vijai Baskar
COPY EDITOR

The IEEE PES Transmission and Distribution (T & D) Conference and Exposition, was held at the McCormick place from April 14 to 17. It is one of the biggest events among industries within electrical engineering hosted by IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) and attended by all the companies associated in the field of power including bigwigs such as Siemens, ABB, and ComEd. This event is held once in two years and this time it was held at Chicago.

The IEEE @ IIT student branch sponsored a total of 40 students to attend this event. There were more than 700 booths at the conference. These booths had exhibits by various electrical companies showcasing their new research, products and services that they provide regarding to power systems and its components like generation, transmission, distribution, and protection equipment and other modern software technologies employed by various utilities in USA.



The event also had many seminars about the latest trends and issues of power systems for electrical students. The entire event

started off with a leadership workshop. The topics discussed in these seminars were mostly about power systems operations, transformers,

substations, energy development, transmission, and distribution. There were also panel sessions, which discussed about electrical technologies and tech tours to various energy centers at Exelon and ComEd.

As part of the collegiate programs for the students, there were dinner and luncheon sessions where students from various universities got together and discussed about their course work and research extending their network. Also, there were fun events like reliability killers and scavenger hunts where participants had a chance to wind out of the tight sessions. The overall conference was an extravagant event. It helped the students a lot as they learnt about the latest trends in the industry and the products being developed by electrical companies.

This event mainly enabled students to connect with their peers and potential employers thus expanding a network where the current engineers in the field are more aware about new career perspectives. The ECE Department Chair, Dr. Ashfaq Khokhar, mainly encouraged the significant effort taken by the student branch.

Photo by Vijai Baskar

NSBE-IIT attends 40th National Convention in Nashville

Joannas Joseph
TECHNEWS WRITER

This year like any other, the NSBE-IIT chapter led a large contingent to the National Convention held in Nashville, Tennessee.

This convention dubbed "the family reunion" due to the convention's fortieth anniversary and its location in the central city of Nashville.

For both our first time and returning attendees, what may this convention have in store? This year the chapter when through a massive rebuilding time and was able to establish an active membership from varying African Diasporas at IIT. However, through the efforts of the executive board and the dedicated members, approximately 48 students

were able to travel to Nashville for the fortieth annual Convention from March 26 to 30. The Convention featured speakers such as Governor R. Musgrove Mississippi Government, Pedro Sainz de Baranda President of Otis, UTC, Karla Bonzie Director of HR GISC Programs, Johnson Controls and Young Guru Producer Extraordinaire and special performances by B.O.B. Young Guru, an Audio Engineer delivered a particularly motivational speech during Friday's general session.

Guru urged conference attendees to perfect their craft by taking reading and using any free time to learn as much as they can about their respective fields. Although the conference featured a rigorous schedule of workshops, career fair, national executive elections and debates, hospitality suites and general sessions, the group did find some

time for relaxation.

On Saturday March 29, the achievements of NSBE-IIT Chapter were highlighted. During the Region IV (consisting of Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio) meeting, the NSBE-IIT was praised as the chapter with the Most Submitted Transcripts for the 2013 to 2014 academic year.

NSBE-IIT President, Joannas Joseph was also awarded the Excelling Academically Scholarship from Region 4. The Boeing Flight Competition also featured the Illinois Tech Team, Phoenix (Kevin President, Sirgi Theophilus, Rachel Montoute and Joannas Joseph) who were very competitive.

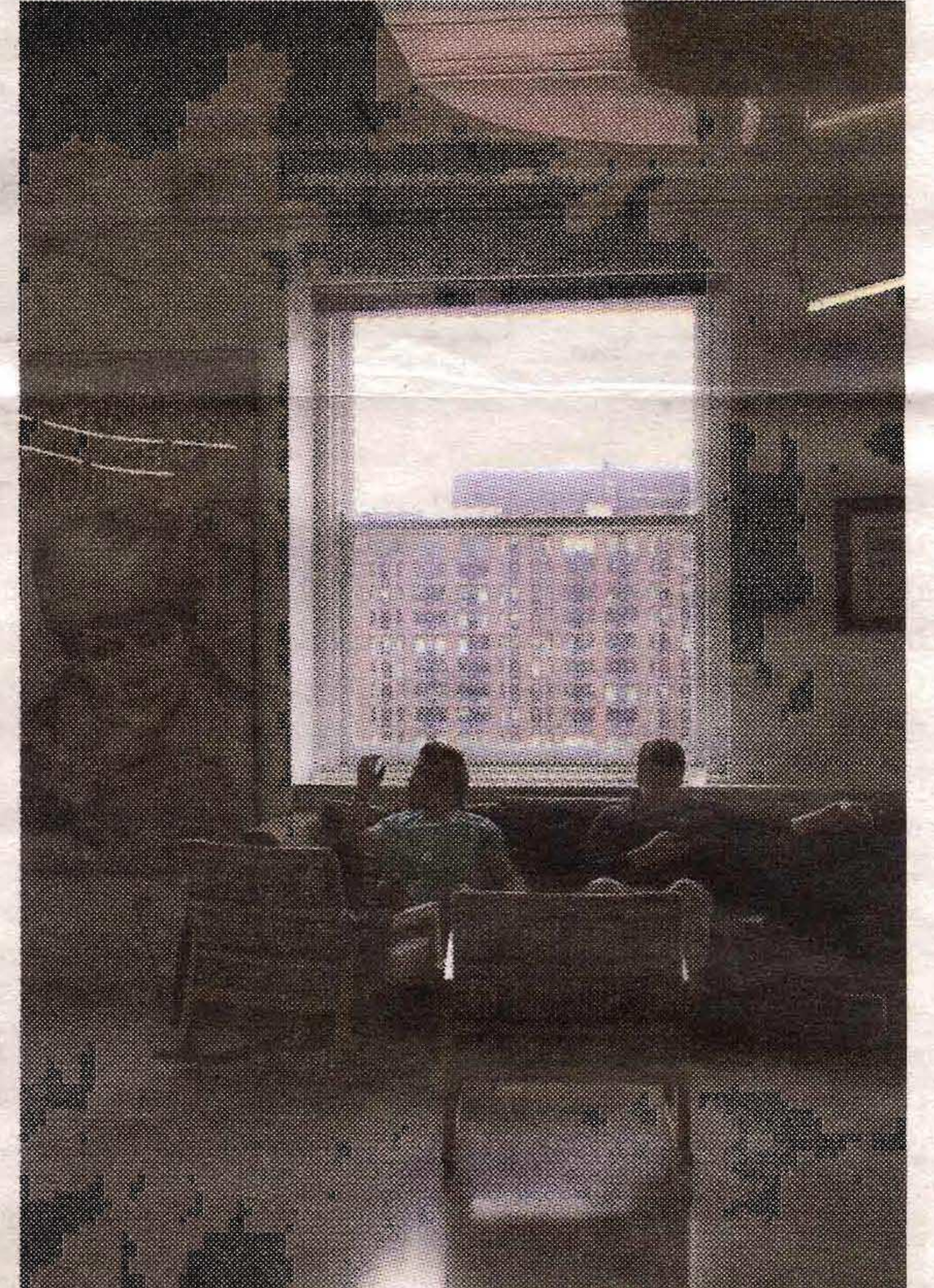
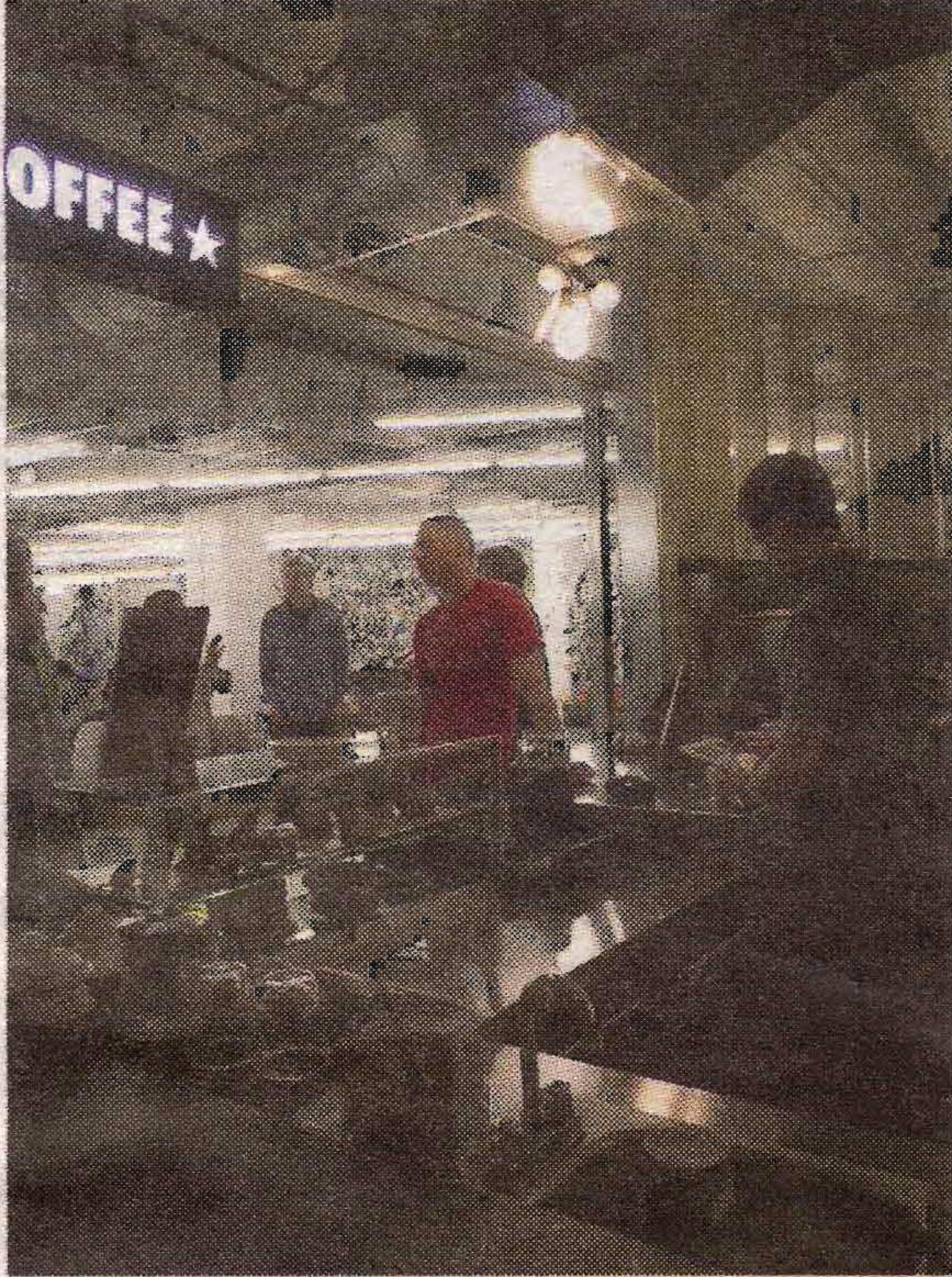
Although unsuccessful in the flight competition, the team did get the opportunity to meet IIT alum Anthony Meioyer, Director of Operations and Strategic Development at

The Boeing Company and received the winning strategy for next year. The convention concluded with the Golden Torch Awards where any first time attendees were in absolute awe of the event which was put on for them.

"It was great to network with other students and hear them talk about what their future plans/goals were" expressed a first time attendee.

All attendees have testified that they will be attending the next convention in Anaheim California in 2015. For many college students, a convention of this caliber may be perceived as either a networking opportunity or a glorified vacation. No matter the outlook, all the members of the NSBE-IIT chapter who attended all attest that it was indeed worthwhile for their professional growth.

Work Spaces @ 1871 in Merchandise Mart



Game Review:

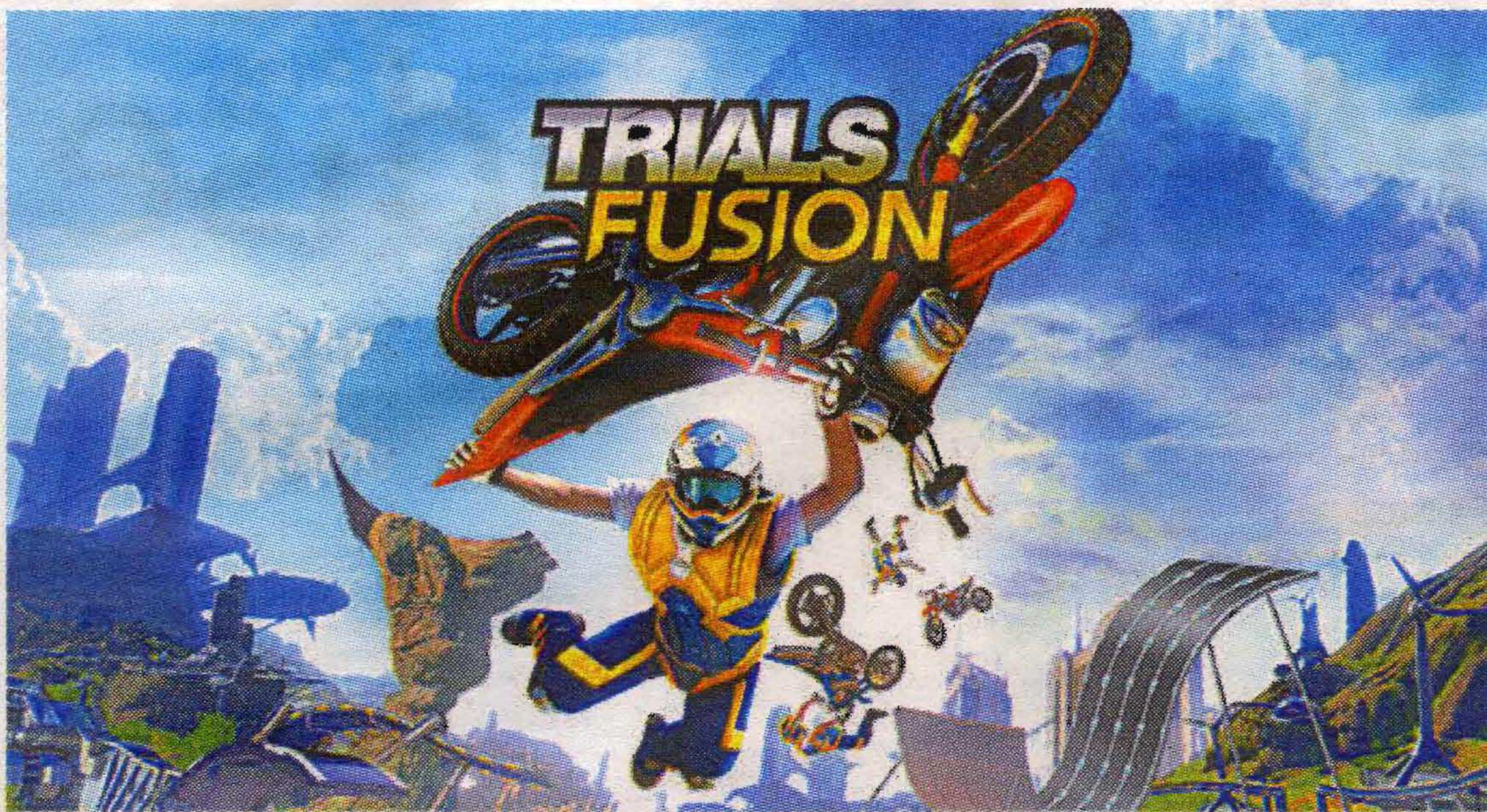
Trials Fusion features difficult levels, addictive play

Austin Gonzalez & Kyle Stanevich
OPINION EDITOR & BUSINESS MANAGER

Trials Fusion has once again raised the bar for the Trials series. These games are well known with a basic formula: scrolling racetrack on dirt bikes. This fifth installment achieves the same balance that its predecessors did. Enough content to justify buying the game, but not so much to require commitment to a storyline or characters.

Trials Fusion is a classic arcade style game for the PC, Xbox One, 360, and PS4 for only \$20. The gameplay is more or less the same as its critically acclaimed predecessors Trials Evolution and Trials HD, but now features more social elements. Global leader boards and local multiplayer lets riders compete against their friends and the rest of the world. A tricks system has been added, making some maps trick based instead of racing the clock. One of the most praised features from Evolution is making a return, the track editor. This lets users create custom tracks, adding so much more gameplay than the premade developer created tracks. While this is a motorcycle game, the sky was the limit with users recreating games such as asteroids, snake, Pacman, and even Flappy Birds.

While the fan base created tracks



kept Evolution fun to play long after the standard tracks, Fusion has added way more gameplay possibilities. Each track has three individual challenges, such as completing a track without crashing or performing a certain amount of flips. While every track can be completed under an hour, these challenges can more than triple the play time. And that is not all. Through the entire game, there are 20 hid-

den squirrels, un-lockable usually by crashing in a certain way. The first few are easy to find, but as the game gets harder, so does finding the squirrels.

This game ends up looking amazing. Compared to the other trials games, this one is more vibrant and features some amazing lighting and shadow effects. This is the one thing that the flash game equivalents cannot

match. They will never look nearly as nice as the master race of PC gamers has come to expect.

At the end of the day, you get an addictive game that can be played for hours on end. There is a campaign and storyline, but it usually gets lost between the crashing, restarting, and challenges. The next generation graphics and fantastic user maps make gameplay even more enjoyable. At \$20, some people may find that with enough imagination free flash games like Line rider, Canvas Rider, and Free Rider HD can be just as fun and maybe even more so. Trials is an example of a fan-favorite style of games being taken to its extreme limits with the power of modern computer technology; whether or not it's worth it is up to you.

If you do buy the game, don't get frustrated by a seemingly impossible challenge or jump to make. Everyone will end up restarting from a checkpoint time and time again.

Image courtesy of shop.ubi.com

SPORTS

NATHAN MCMAHON

sports@technewsit.com

Track & Field reaches end of outdoor season

Philip Cano
STAFF WRITER

The Illinois Tech Track and Field teams competed exceptionally well during their last two outdoor meets, especially in their performance at the Cougar Invite hosted by Concordia University in River Forest, IL. Overall, the men placed a close 2nd out of 15 teams, scoring 80 total team points, only three behind the home school Concordia. And the women placed 11th out of 16 teams and scored 17 points, outscoring rivals such as Roosevelt and Robert Morris.

"It was a great day for our men's team. We had athletes scoring in almost every event that we competed in, which is pretty impressive considering the programs that took part at this meet," said Head Coach Calin

Hantau. With all these points rolling in from many teammates, it really is a team effort because it takes contributions from everyone to be competitive in track and field.

To highlight the top performances, we have Anne Crotteau who placed 3rd in the 3000m, Veronica Hannink who placed 4th in the 100m Hurdles and 3rd in the 400m Hurdles, Mitchlie Martyr who placed 5th in the 400m, Ethan Montague who placed 4th in the 800m, Phillip Cano who placed 4th in the 1000m, Andrew Montague who placed 5th in the 1500m, Samuel Wietlispach who placed 2nd in the 3000m, Teva Venet who placed 1st in the Triple Jump, Jack Kosar who placed 1st in the Javelin, and Joseph Yassin who placed 2nd three separate times in the Shot Put, Discus, and Javelin. Not to mention the 4x400m Relay, consisting of Tyler Haag, Ethan Mon-

tague, Andrew Montague, and Quentin Shipley, that finished in an exciting 4th place team effort.

Only a week later did the varsity teams next head to the Twilight Invite hosted by Benedictine University in Lisle, IL. Overall, the men placed 9th out of 16 teams and the women placed 14th. Although the competition was tough, the Scarlet Hawks still managed to achieve many new season bests and even a few school records.

To highlight the top performances, we have Amy Rice who set a personal best in the 400m, April Wanagas who set a season best in the 800m, Anne Crotteau who set a personal best in the 3000m, Veronica Hannink who set a season best in the 100m Hurdles, Raman Venugopal and William Carlson who both set personal bests in the 100m and 200m, Tyler

Haag who set a personal best in the 100m and improved his school record in the 200m, Ethan Montague and Quentin Shipley who both set season bests in the 800m, Andrew Montague who set a personal best in the 1500m, Gabriel Wolstenholme who set a personal best in the 3000m, Samuel Wietlispach who improved his school record in the 3000m, Phillip Cano who set a new school record in the 400m Hurdles, Peter Lau who set a personal best in the 3000m Steeplechase, and Joseph Yassin who set a season best in the Shot Put and a new school record in the Javelin Throw.

In two weeks, both men and women teams will head to their last meet of the season. They will travel to North Central College in Naperville, IL to compete in the Dr. Keeler Invite on Friday, May 9th for one more chance to improve their scores. Great job, Scarlet Hawks!

Premier League a 2 horse race for title

Nathan McMahon
SPORTS EDITOR

The 2013-2014 Barclay's Premier League season is now into the final three weeks as the race for the title is continuously seeing new leaders.

Atop the table and the new favorites are Liverpool who, after a win over Manchester City and now a 3-2 win over Norwich sit with 80 points which is 5 points clear of Chelsea and 6 points clear of City who also

have a game in hand. In their 11th straight victory the most impressive player on the pitch was Raheem Sterling for the Reds as he opened and closed the scoring as well and assisted Luis Suarez with a sublime pass. With Daniel Sturridge out, Suarez needed a new partner on the day and Sterling was the man.

Norwich is just a point outside the relegation zone and to take a point from Liverpool would have been very good for them. Another major result in the top four was Arsenal's FA Cup Final preview against Hull

City that ended in a 3-0 win for the Gunners. A goal from Aaron Ramsey and a brace from Lukas Podolski sent the Gunners on their way to hold onto the fourth Champion's League spot just a point ahead of Everton who have 69 points.

Everton kept pace with the Gunners as they completed a comprehensive 2-0 victory over struggling Manchester United.

Manchester City kept pace at the top as they dismantled a resilient West Bromwich side in 3-1 fashion. City looked nervy

for a large part of the match, but the striking power of Sergio Aguero would not be denied as they marched with three points.

On the other side there was a massive upset as Chelsea slipped up to Sunderland at home as the Black Cats won 2-1 and ended Jose Mourinho's unbeaten streak at Stamford Bridge.

Dropping three points has not mathematically eliminated Chelsea, but it has seemingly turned the race for the title into a two horse race.



Wednesday, April 30

Baseball
vs. Calvin College
1 p.m., Ed Glancy Field
Games 1 & 2

Friday, May 2

Baseball
vs. Maranatha Baptist Bible College
Donation Night for St. James Food
Pantry
3 p.m., Ed Glancy Field

Saturday, May 3

Baseball
vs. Maranatha Baptist Bible College
1 p.m., U.S. Cellular Field,
Home of the Chicago White Sox

Friday, May 9

Women's & Men's Track & Field
Dr. Keeler Invite @ North Central
College
Time: TBA



• **Newly built Condo for rent**

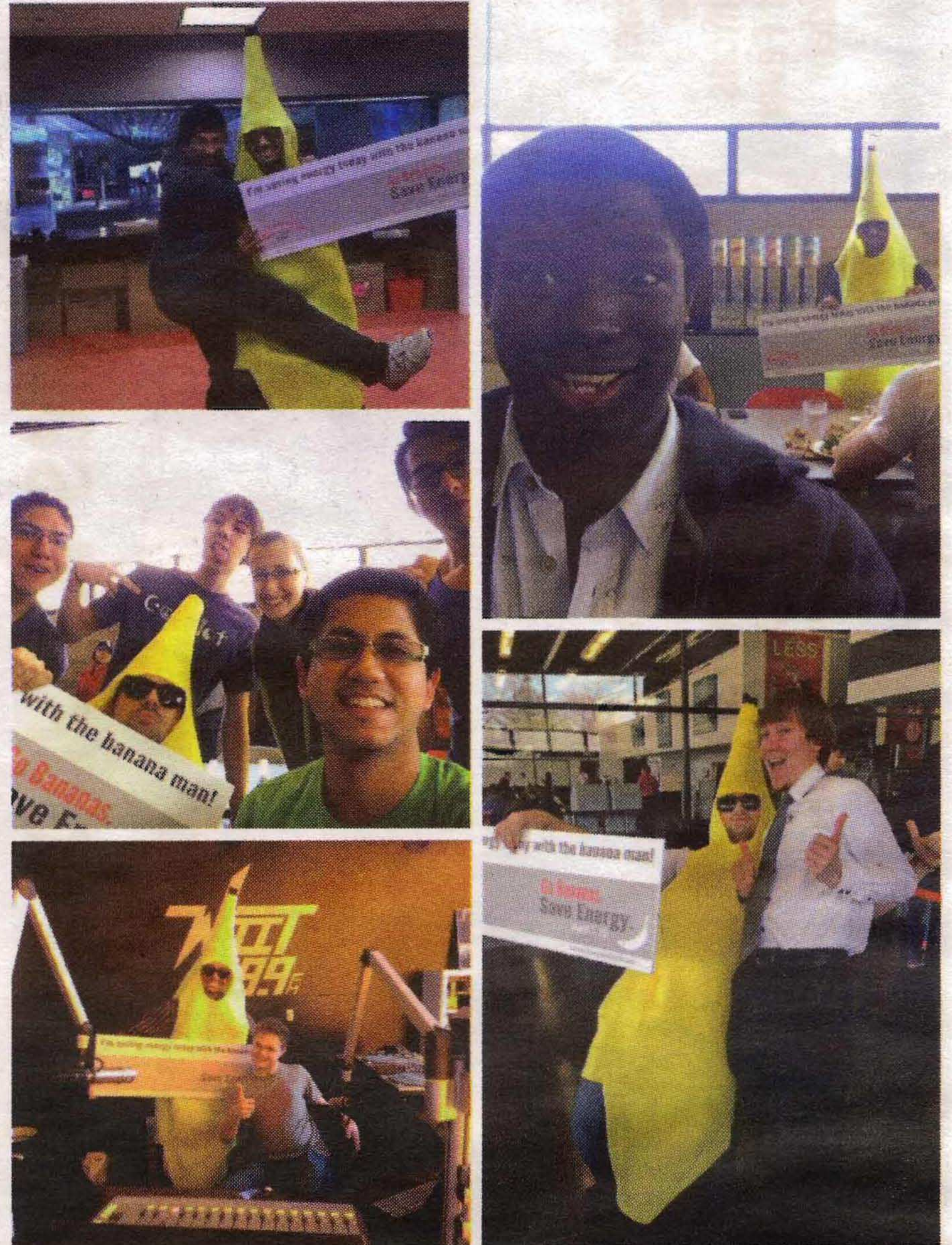
- 3 large bedrooms, 2 Full Baths
- 5 minutes away from downtown/loop area
- Steps away from public transportation (Metra and CTA)
- Walking distance to Illinois Institute of Technology, U.S Cellular Field and Illinois College of Optometry
- Close to major expressways
- Stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors, high efficiency washer with full size dryer in unit, private balcony
- Central Air
- Garage Parking
- Only \$1900 per month

Located at 3540 S. State. Contact Robert if interested: (773)319-0283

Good luck with finals IIT!

Thanks for saving energy with #IITBanana for CCN!

Here's some of our favorite pictures:



IIT First-Year Students and Graduating Students (Seniors)



Want to win a **\$50 Best Buy® gift card?**

- DISAGREE
- AGREE
- STRONGLY AGREE

LAST CHANCE TO TAKE THE SURVEY!

IIT is participating in the **National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)**. Check your email for a message from NSSE containing your survey invitation.

Respond by **May 3** for a chance to win one of 12 Best Buy® gift cards!

We want to hear your feedback about IIT!

Your opinions count and will help IIT to improve academic and social programming at the university.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact the Office of Assessment and HEA Compliance at emmons@iit.edu.

Stress Free Zone!

May 5-9

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 8:30am-5pm
Open study area with coffee & tea in the MTCC Ballroom.

Monday - Friday
Relaxation Zone in the MTCC Welcome Center

Tuesday 2pm-3pm
Tuesdays with Solly in the Student Health and Wellness Center, 3rd Floor of the IIT Tower! Solly our therapy dog and his Mommy, Erixa, will be hanging out together in the Tower. Stop by and say "hi", take a break to play with Solly, or sit and chat with them about anything on your mind lately.

Tuesday 10pm-Midnight
Late Night Breakfast in The Commons!

Wednesday 11am-2pm
Bowling with Campus Life!
Stop by and challenge the OCL team to a game of bowling! Snacks and drinks provided!



Don't forget! Student organization re-registration starts on Monday!

Remember- you need to have an advisor, 10 current members not graduating in May 2014, and a revised constitution and bylaws on HawkLink to be eligible.

Visit <https://iit.collegiatelink.net/> to register starting Monday, April 28.

The more you take, the more you leave behind.
What are they?

Give me food, and I will live.
Give me water, and I will die.

What am I?

What do these things all have in common: Laughter, living well, and a good offense?

What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment and never in one thousand years?

Riddles for your mind

Union Board Office Hours:

Impact
Bog
Traditions
Scarlet Fever
President

- Friday 1:00pm - 2:00pm
- Thursday 3:30pm - 5:30pm
- Mondays 4:00pm - 5:00pm
- Wednesday 11:30am - 2:30pm
- Thursday 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Union Board

Union Board meetings are every Thursday at 1pm
in the E1 Auditorium. All committees all at once.

Upcoming Events

Thursday May 1st
"Leadership Academy Social"
5:00-7:00pm
The Bog

CSA Bowling Social
5:00-7:00pm
The Bog

Cinco de Mayo Celebration
8:00-10:00pm
The Bog

Friday May 2nd
Casino Night
9:00-12:00am
The Bog

Senior Week:

Wednesday May 14th
Six Flags Trip
Tickets go on sale April 29th
www.tinyurl.com/iitticketsales

Thursday May 15th- Paintball
Tickets go on sale soon
www.tinyurl.com/iitticketsales