

IIT SAE projects develop student skills

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We've all heard it time and time again - college can be the time of our lives. For me personally, it was a combination of the international culture at IIT, and the fantastic interdisciplinary projects that students can get involved in. Our collegiate chapter of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), and its auto racing team, IIT Motorsports, supports one of these mammoth projects: Formula SAE (FSAE).

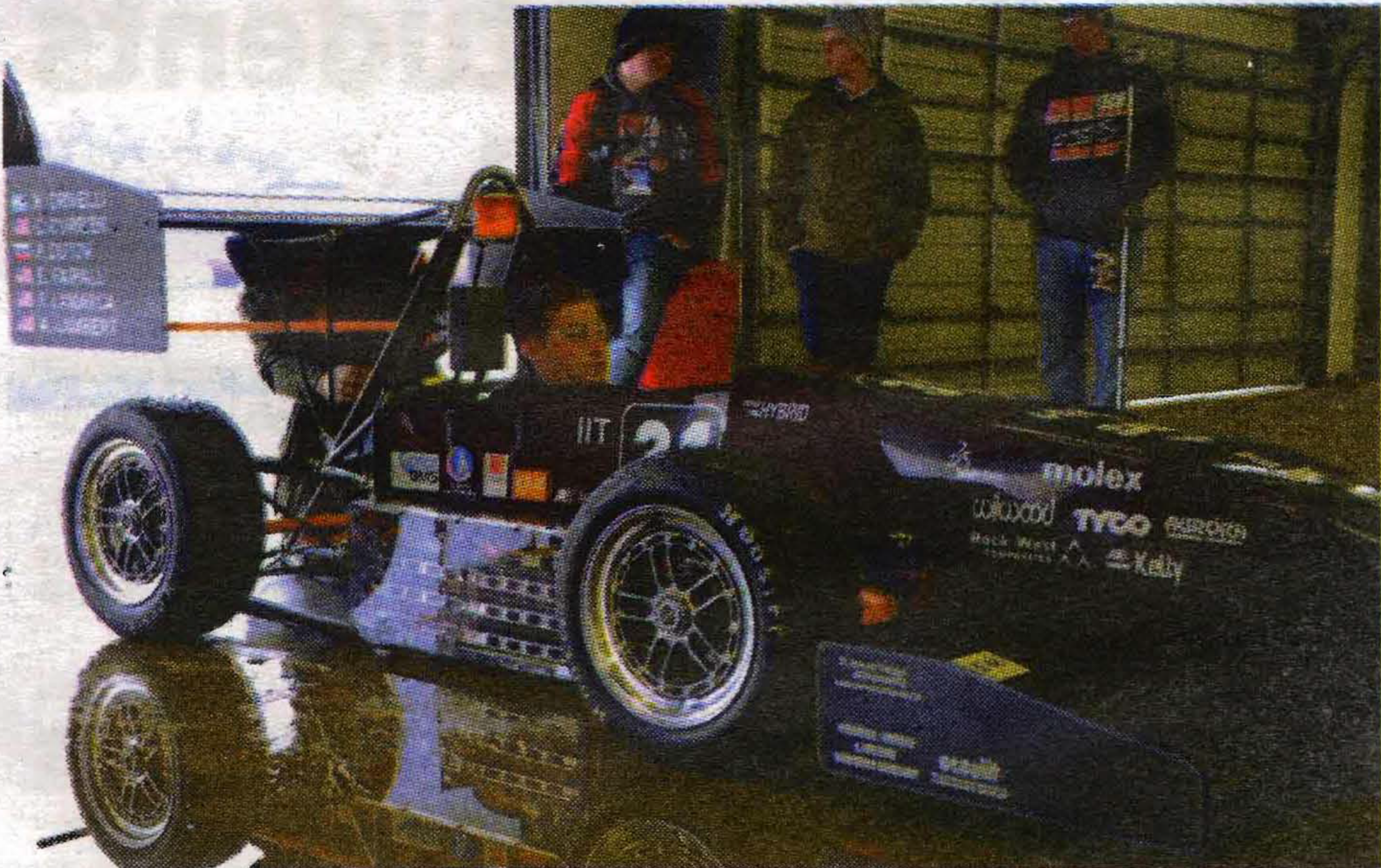
Every year the students in SAE design, build, and race their own formula style, open-wheeled, electric race car for the FSAE competitions held around the world. The team has been working feverishly to complete it's latest design. They've put in hundreds of hours this summer completing our carbon fiber chassis and brushless hub motors. The ThunderHawk, their last car, weighed a scant 604 pounds while pushing out 180 horsepower and 1000 foot-pounds of torque. This year, the team looks to drop the weight, but maintain performance to really blow away the competition.

This year a new project was introduced: a gas-powered off-road vehicle

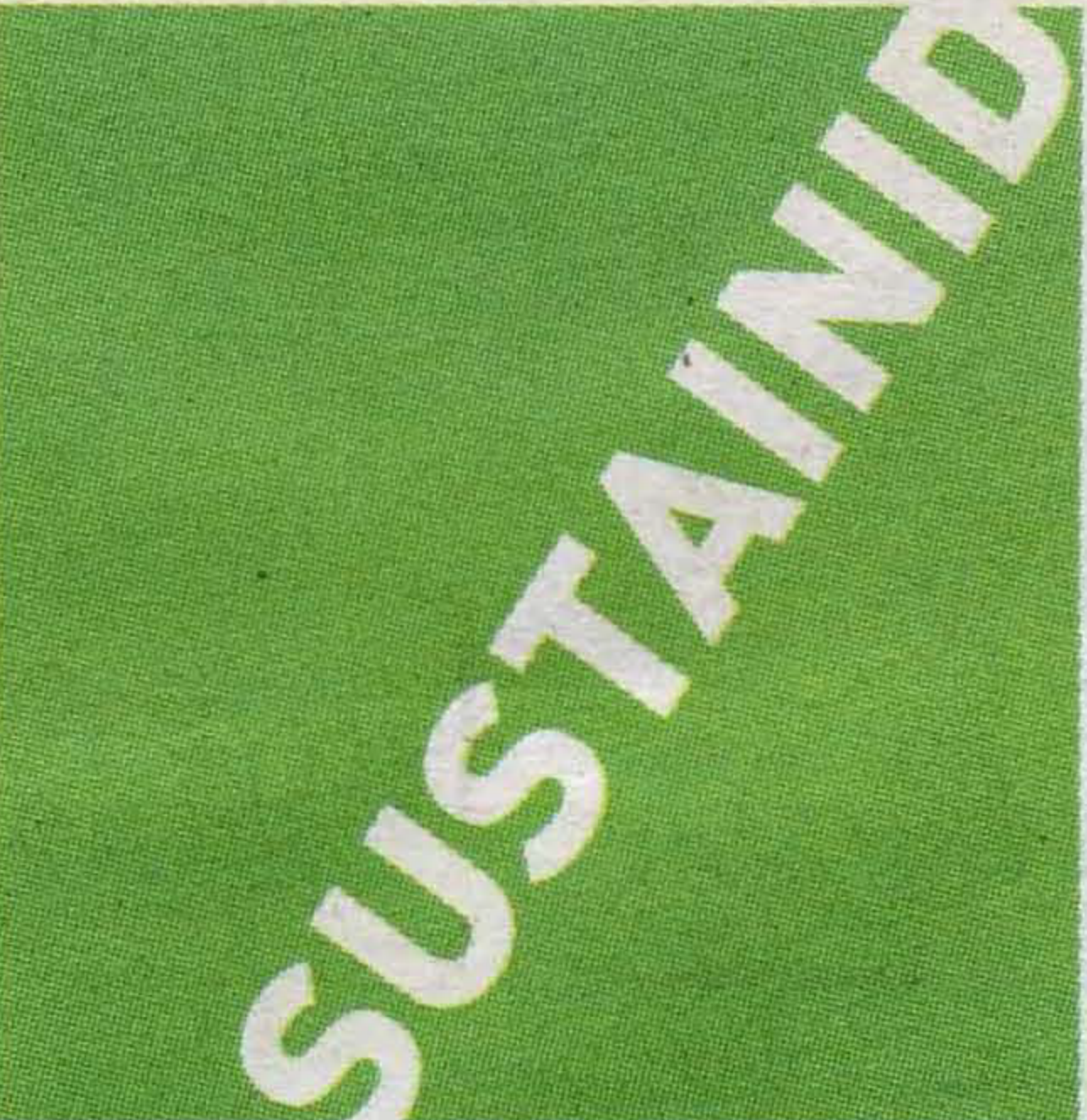
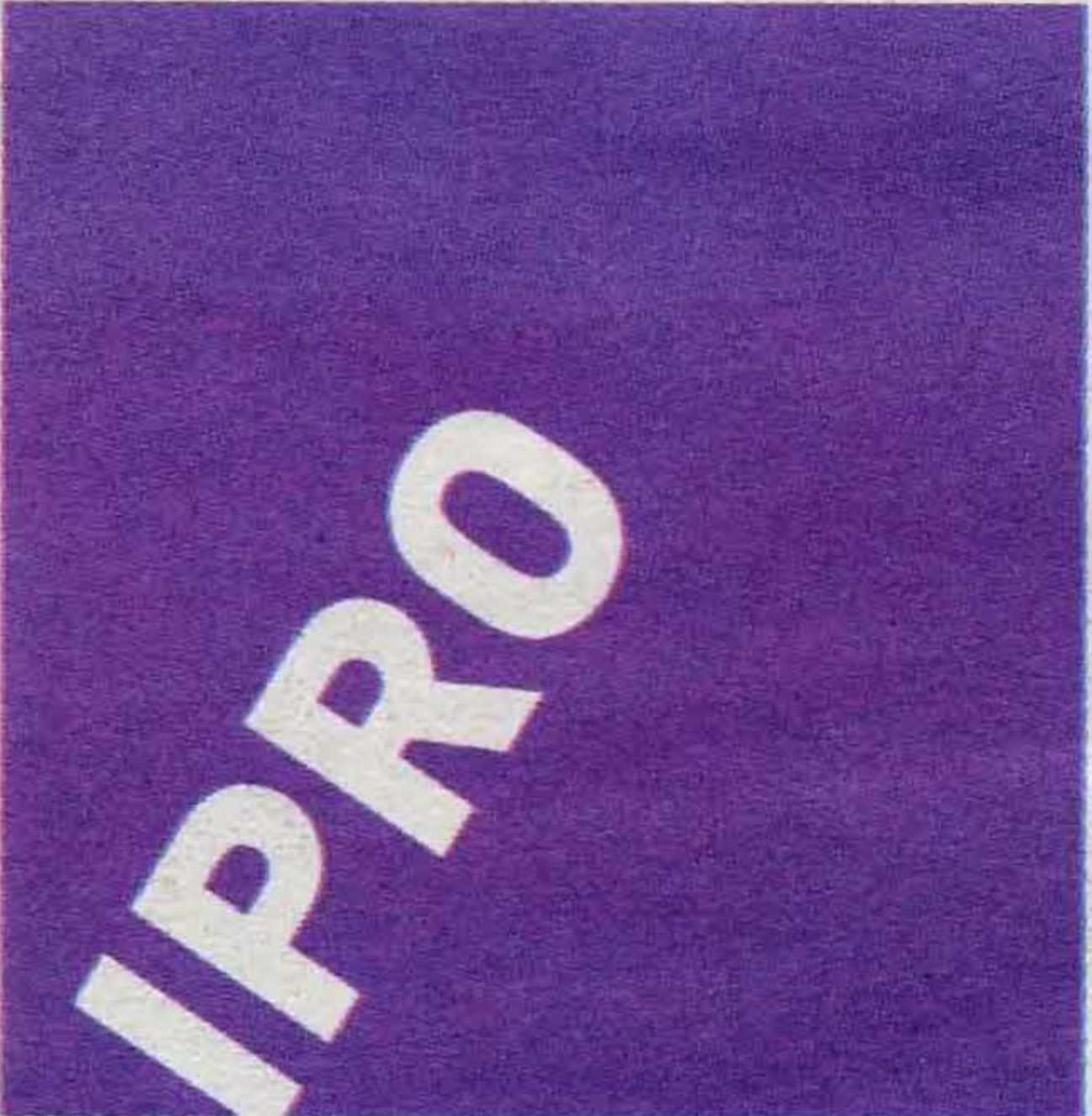
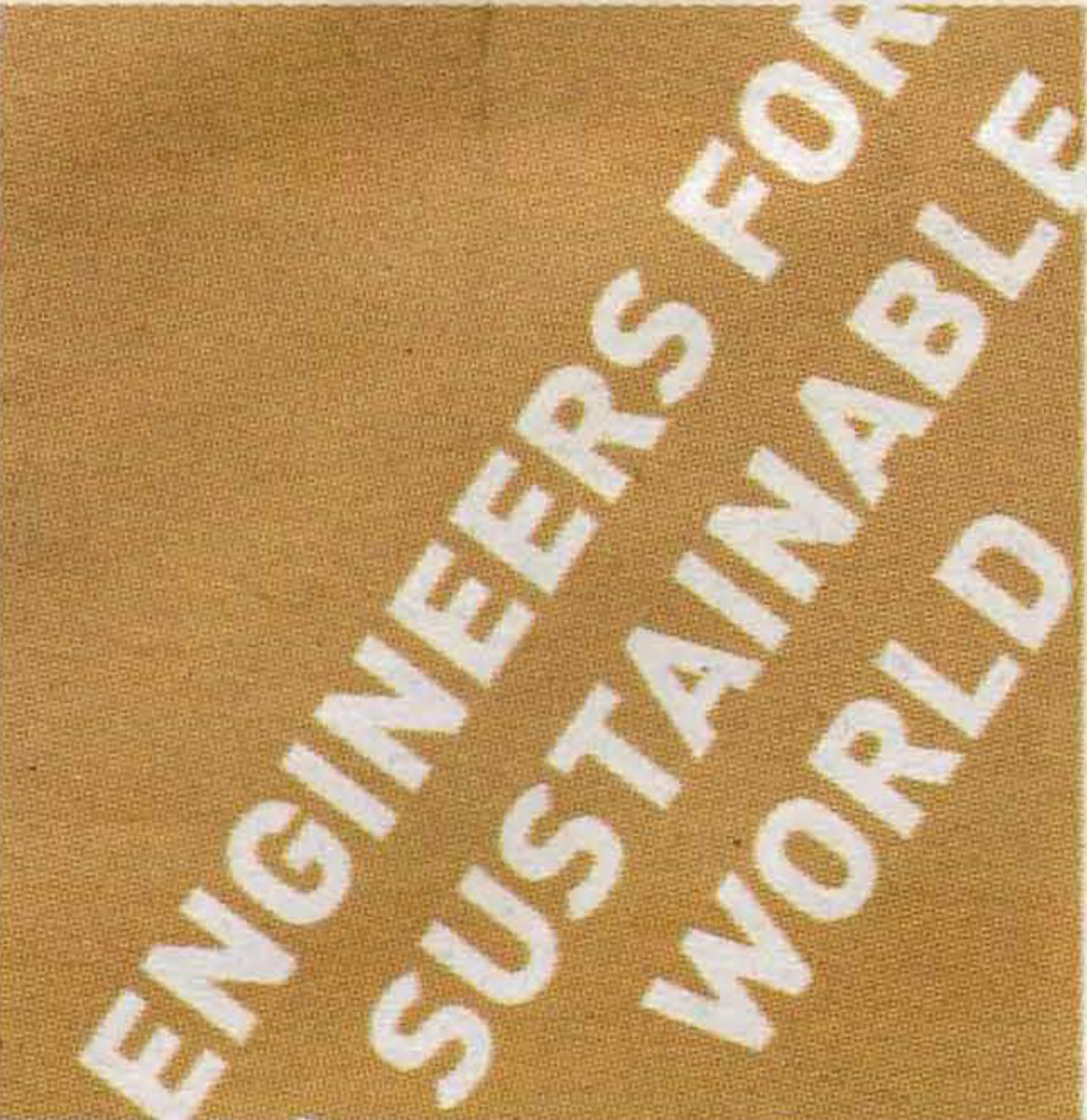
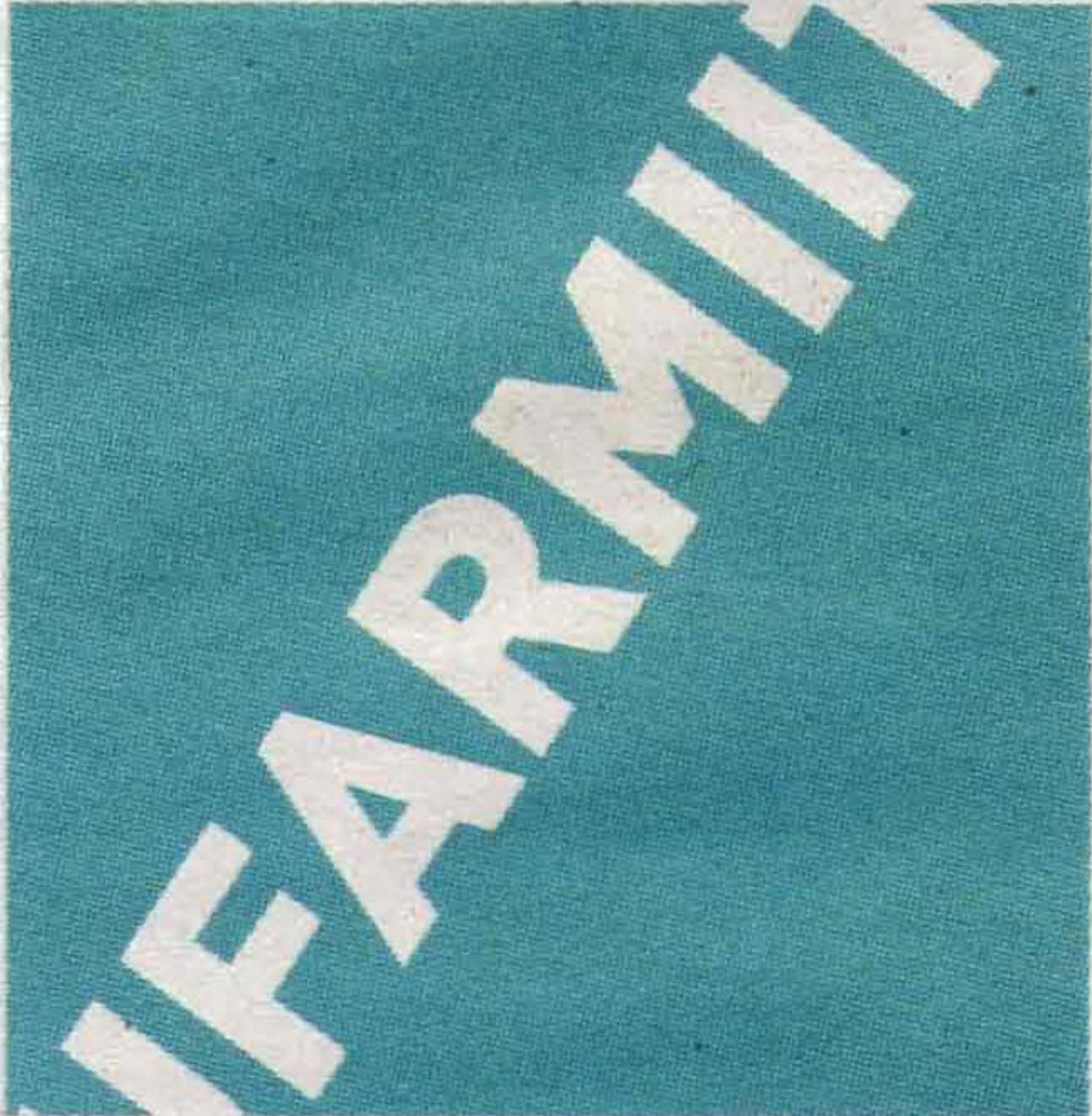
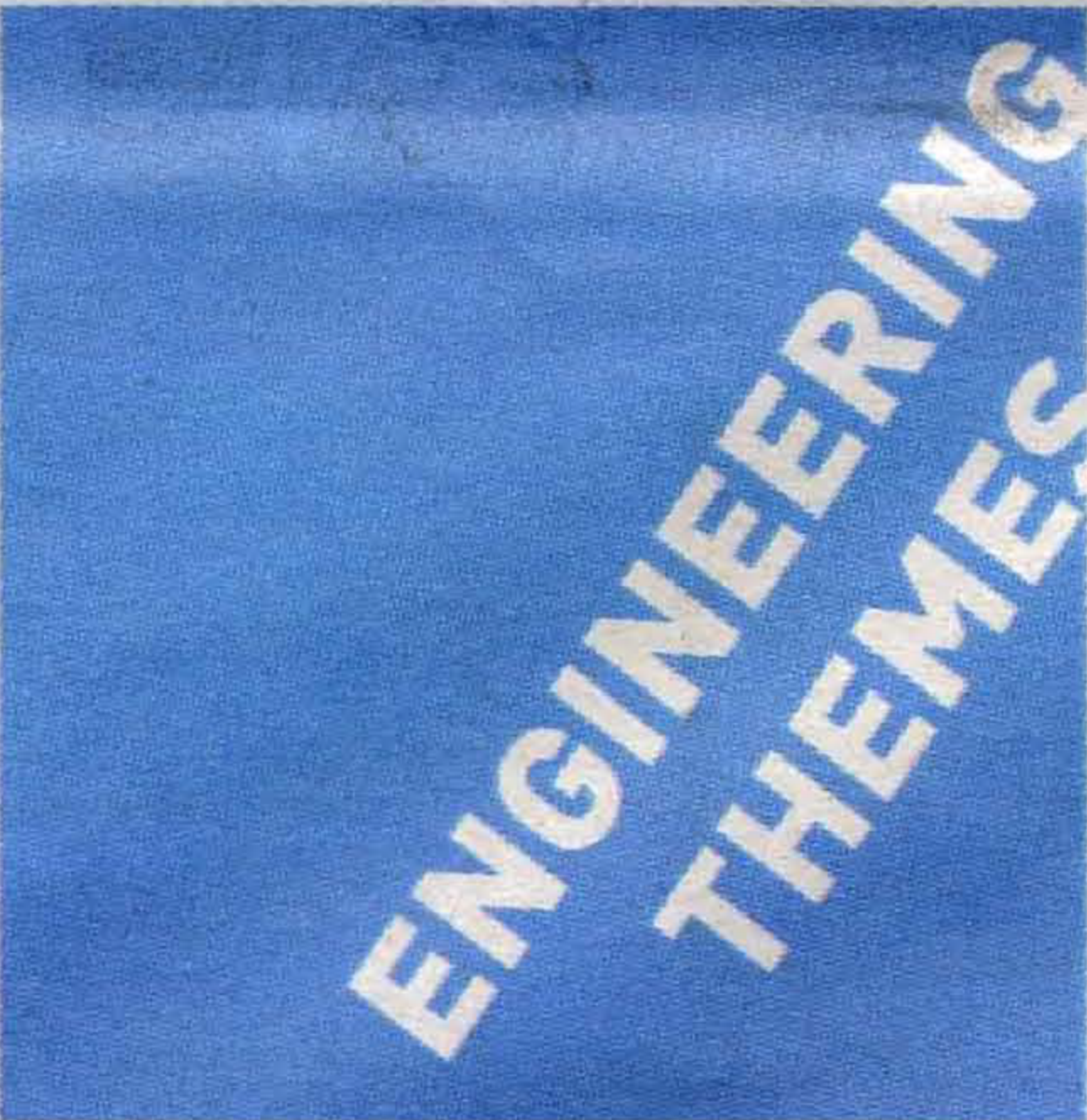
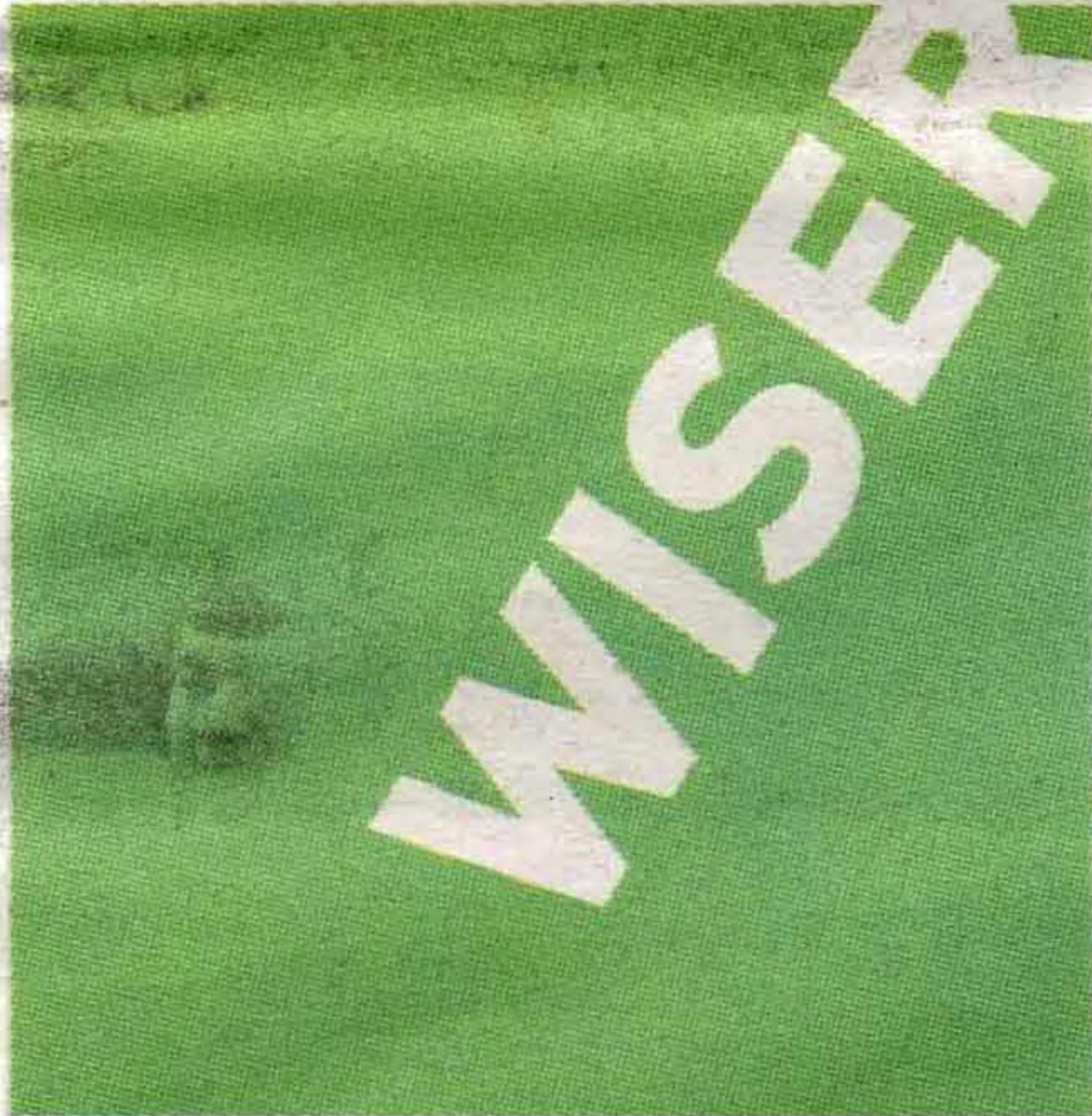
for Baja SAE. The Baja vehicle is all about reliability through simplicity with its single cylinder motor, steel tube frame chassis, and long travel suspension. It also serves as a perfect introduction into competing as part of a racing team. The FSAE project, on the other hand, utilizes lightweight carbon composites, complex control circuits, and high-voltage electric hub motors.

Through this project, team members and those that preceded them have acquired incredible expertise in their areas of focus and have gone on to work for companies such as GM, Chrysler, Honda, Dallara Automobili, and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. However, it all starts with incoming students. No matter the major or what experience one has, everyone can contribute. There is a niche for everyone from those in the fields of business, to computers, to engineering of all types, the artistically inclined, and anyone who loves cars or racing. Every facet is needed to build a team that can create and field competitive vehicles.

To take advantage of what IIT has to offer, grow an invaluable skill set, and have the time of your life doing it, contact SAE today at sae@iit.edu and visit their shop to check out what they do when you're on campus.



Photos by Austin Gonzalez



tinyurl.com/iitsustainabilityfair
September 15 | Hermann Hall Ballroom | 12:30 - 2pm
campussustainability@iit.edu

KEEP CALM AND BOG ON

The Bog provides a fun environment for IIT students, faculty, staff and the greater Chicago area. Visitors to The BOG can enjoy a game of bowling, pool, table tennis or just grab a drink and food with friends. The Bog also regularly hosts magicians, hypnotists, live music, and karaoke.

Are you a commuter student?
Did you know The Bog is also the commuter lounge?
Hang out, do your homework, play games, watch a movie or eat a meal!

Hours
8:30 am to 6 pm Monday through Wednesday
8:30 am to 1 am on Thursday & Friday
5 pm to 1 am Saturdays from October to March