33rd Production Scored Big with Into the Woods

Even in its most sarcastic tone, Into the Woods presents the audience with refreshing moral dilemmas and questions the moral lessons that these fairy tales teach our kids.

The result is an avant-garde story about a conglomeration of new and old storybook characters and their journey of disillusionment. Disney movie fans can appreciate various parts of the play as some of the elements seem to come straight out Walt’s storyboards. Yet, unlike those cartoons, which tend to downplay many of the violent and cruel aspects of the classic fairy tales, Into the Woods reacquaints and exploits the tragedies of these stories, including the Binding of Rapunzel’s prince and Cinderella’s stepsisters.

Even in its most sarcastic tone, Into the Woods presents the audience with refreshing moral dilemmas and questions the moral lessons that these fairy tales teach our kids. It dares to reveal that nothing is truly black or white in life - evenPrince Charming can be “not sincere” and witches can be right even if they are not nice. It mocks the age-old saying of “happily ever after” which follows almost every fairy tale and poignantly points out that having your wish is not always the best thing.

The idea for this production came from the director, Jason Gagliardi, a first-year Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering student. Gagliardi took an interest in the play when he first directed it while involved in high school theater. He wrote the proposal for the production, which was submitted and approved by 33rd Street Executive Board.

Catering to an always critical IIT crowd, 33rd Street Production chose this play because of the ensemble cast and the hilarious script. Alyssa Hockenson, president of 33rd Street Production and performer in this play, explains, “There are no corny lines in this show. Every actor on stage has his or her own character. The music is difficult, but the dancing is minimal. We had a lot of fun working with it to produce something that our IIT audience will find both intelligent and entertaining.”

Audience member Sarah Halbert commented, “It was great. It was the best play I have seen here at IIT.”

Production should have calmed any critic with its witty and entertaining performances. Sondheim’s music and dialogue is always difficult and challenging even to the most experienced actors and singers. Yet, the all around strong performances from cast members, at times, made this Legg seem effortless. Gagliardi agrees, “There is a lot of talent in this cast and crew. They were great to work with. I really have to thank them for putting up with my demands and craziness.”

The orchestra was equally fantastic, carrying the audience from scene to scene with its flawless interpretation of the score as well as providing convincing sound effects. The set, while simple, adequately portrayed the necessary setting of a fairy tale. The colorful costumes also added realism to the cast’s performance.

Audience member Sarah Halbert commented, “It was great. It was the best play I have seen here at IIT.” Andrew Mills also concurred, “I really like the story and how everyone was able to carry it off.” This seemed to be the general consensus of most attending these performances. The combined talents of cast, crew, musicians, and director provided the audience with an evening filled with laughter and enchantment. We couldn’t have asked for better!
Faculty Profile: Kenneth Stagiano

Steven Mahadavyan
TechNews Writer

A faculty member for over seven years, Dr. Kenneth Stagiano, Professor of Chemistry, received his PhD. from Temple University in Philadelphia. Dr. Stagiano teaches various courses at the undergraduate level, like organic and general chemistry and a few graduate level courses as well.

Dr. Stagiano said that Illinois Tech's main advantage is that the number of students in the college is comparatively less, which helps enhance student-faculty interaction. He feels that the students are extremely committed to their work and are very sincere and hard working. He also feels that the students are the biggest asset to this university. He feels, however, that Illinois Tech's buildings need improvements in their interior. He also feels that Illinois Tech needs more signs throughout the campus thus enabling better awareness among the public of its presence.

Dr. Stagiano has conducted research in the field of Natural Products Chemistry for many years, and published many papers in this field. Currently, he has involved himself in the research of Anti-Viral Agents. His recent publication includes "Regiocontrolled Synthesis of the Trimeric Quinone Framework of Concorvunone". The trimeric quinone framework of concorvunone is crucial for its potent anti-HIV activity. In the future, Dr. Stagiano would like to teach more advanced organic chemistry courses like stereochemistry and organo metallic chemistry.

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TechNews

meets thurs @ 9p in the HUB
Illinois Tech Recognizes Students and Staff with Leadership and Service Awards

Stacy Newton
Submission

On April 17, the Office of Student Affairs held the Clinton E. Stryker Distinguished Service Awards Banquet to congratulate the students and staff for their commitment and service to Illinois Tech.

Mark Ishimoyan was this year's recipient of the Richard Bahrech Leadership Award, honoring one outstanding sophomore or junior who has demonstrated significant leadership skills in his or her personal and academic life. The award winner must have a cumulative and major GPA of not less than 3.00, hold a position of leadership in a university recognized student organization, and display a high standard of ethics, as well as religious and racial tolerance. This prestigious award carries an honorarium of $15,000.

The following students received the Clinton E. Stryker Distinguished Service Award honoring students who have made notable contributions to campus life.

| Intrada Brooks | Daniel Monahan |
| Sarah Casey   | Matthew Murnon |
| Jessica Coghey | Alex Oetepczyk |
| Kristina Felz  | Abigail Pansubs |
| Gwenn Hager   | Shannon Phillips |
| Mark Ishimoyan | Michael Prince |
| Emery Jordan  | Betsy Reja |
| Jason Kehlet | Owen Jay Smith |
| Ankit Mehta   | Carl Youngblood |
| Amanda Modjeski | Mark Zachar |

Jason Allen is the recipient of the Outstanding Student Employee of the Year Award honoring a student for outstanding job performance and dedicated service to the IIT community.

Ankit Jain is the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award honoring a graduate teaching assistant who has shown extraordinary dedication and commitment to undergraduate education.

Carlo Segne is the recipient of the Outstanding Student Organization Advisor Award honoring an adviser for their outstanding contributions as a volunteer.

Glendalyn Bocker, assistant bursar, Downtown Campus, is the winner of the Excellence in Service Award 2002. Glendalyn has been a member of the IIT staff since 1997 and has spent countless hours behind the window at the Bursar's Office for law, business, and CLFM students. Her dedication to student services has earned her recognition as someone who can work through complex challenges with professional expertise, kindness and a friendly face.
ERASING THE "FRAT BOY" IMAGE

STEVEN PETERS
TechNews Writer

When I was deciding where I wanted to go to college, what I wanted to study, and where I would live, I never considered Greek life. I had the stereotypical point of view that frat boys were superficial, preppy alcoholics. After attending a baseball game with a fraternity here on campus, I decided to join. I was excited about the fraternity because of the cheaper cost, the better food, and the nice people. I knew that it would be a time commitment, but I was ready to balance my life so that I could succeed in school, have a job, and be a good member. However, some pitfalls to being in a Greek organization have arisen, and I would like to address one of them in particular: stereotypes.

My friends back in Wyoming were all extremely surprised that I joined a fraternity. I never partied in high school, never did any drugs, and I wasn't the poster boy of any popular fashion company. All in all, I was not the type of frat boy you would see in a movie. From my good friends, I received support for anything that I wanted to do, but some of those who did not know me as well spread rumors that I had become an alcoholic. This was fine with me as I no longer wanted those people in my life anyway. I believe that the average GPA of my fraternity is higher than the average GPA of all the men on campus. We made this achievement last semester as well as averaging more than twenty hours of community service per member.

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As the Swirl Turns

We're all here for the same reason: we're stuck in a pattern of repeating events. It feels like nothing changes.

DEAL!

As the Swirl Turns

The ordinary moments are the ones that we forget. It's when things go wrong that we remember them.
Restaurant Review:

Foodlife

Foodlife works on an exclusive card system; whatever you choose to eat is charged on the card, and purchased are summed and paid for upon exit. There are thirteen food stalls to choose from. For the health conscious diner, there is the 'Miracle Juice Bar', which offers a variety of freshly squeezed juices. Foodlife also offers a variety of pizzas, the 'Wrigleys' have tortillas with mouth watering fillings; 'Bottles and Barbeque' serve barbecued chicken, split roasted chicken and barbeque ribs. There is also the 'Souplife', with hearty stews and aromatic soups.

After the filling and appetizing meal, the dining can approach the "Sweetlife", which offers a selection from sinfully rich to delightfully light desserts, non fat frozen yogurts, and others with a variety of attractive names.

Foodlife provides guaranteed satisfaction to everyone's taste, and hence is an excellent place for any business, family, or any other social dining. Moreover, its convenient location and reasonable prices are added attractions; only $5 - $8 per entrée.

Wico - Yankee

Yankee Hotel Fuxity

Release Date: April 23, 2002

Arden Karanambuhty
TechNews Writer

f there's one rock band that deserves widespread mainstream success, it is Wico. Much like the Beatles or Radiohead, each album they release is different from the last, revealing an evolution and a willingness to explore, both musically and thematically. The previous album, 1999's Summerteeth, received universal critical acclaim and peaked at number one on the charts. The album was filled with ambitious orchestral rock, combining dark lyrics with buoyancy, catchy songs. Yankee Hotel Fuxity is a more low-key affair, but there is even more experimentation. The album defies easy categorization, and Wilco shifts genres and moods several times in one song. It would be impossible to describe the album as a whole, so I'll break down each song.

The album opens with a swell of radio noises, buzzes, piano tinkling, and random junkyard percussion before launching into the guitars and vibrato riffs of "I Am Trying To Break Your Heart." It is impossible to comprehend this song with only one or two listens. Every musical bar brings new instruments, melodies, and generally interesting things, but the groove stays consistent. Then, unexpectedly, the groove drops out and all that is left are scariping drones and background noises that sound like a piano dying a slow, painful death, with the singer muttering words from a different song. I don't know when I've heard a song that marries a classic pop sensibility with wildly experimental sounds so expertly.

Next is "Kamera," which has a jangly, upbeat tone which would sound right at home on Summerteeth. Moog synths and vibrate riffs permeate the mix with colorful and pleasing counterpoints to the drums and guitar. "Radio Cure" is all about tension and release. The dynamics begin very soft and quiet before building to a crescendo in this song. "War on War" is one of two songs that are easily prophetic in the wake of September 11 (all the songs were recorded long before). Similar to "Kamera," this song features a jumpy, catchy tune that sticks in your head, but the lyrics are more interesting: "It's a war on war / You have to lose / You have to learn how to die / If you want to be alive..." It might not sit comfortably with some, but to me it's a very resonant statement. Either way, the music can be appreciated for itself and is of the same high caliber as the rest of the album.

"Jesus, Etc." has wonderfully poetic lyrics, a lazy drifting beat, lush violins, pianos, banjos, and slide guitars... it is one of the most beautiful songs and it works great. "Ashes of American Flags" is the other prophetic song, and it has the best lyrics on the album. One of the greatest intentions on the disc is when the band gets soft to give way to the lyrics "I would like to salute / The ashes of American flags / All the fallen leaves / Filling up shopping bags..." Then the band all but disappears, and a flurry of layers upon layers of noises, tape loops, and modulations are let loose... which brings us to the most complicated song on the album, "Heavy Metal Drummer." It sounds like a throwback to 70's garage bands, but has enough interesting studio flourishes to remain firmly in the present. The Beatles-esque "I'm the Man Who Loves You" really should be on the radio, and should be a huge hit, but you know it won't be and that makes it all the better. My personal favorite on the album might be "Pot Kettle Black," which isn't too experimental or conventional, but has the most strangely compelling and catchy verse-chorus I've heard in a long while. The last minute or so is absolutely breathtaking, with literally a wall of beautiful, euphoric sound rushing into a fade.

"Poor Places" is just as orchestrated. Guitars and pianos work out a sad tune, until a snare marches in and the sound turns into an epiphany as the speaker declares "It's hot in the poor places tonight / I'm not going outside / I'm not going outside..." until the song disappears in a walling of distorted guitars. Finally, the last song, "Revelations," is quiet and meditative. It's a perfect close to the album. I realize I haven't really captured the feel of each song, and it's because I lack the proper words to truly convey a sense of the album. I've been listening to Yankee Hotel Fuxity on and off for half a year now, I normally got bored with listening to an album for more than a few weeks, so that is saying a lot. Each time I've heard new, subtle nuances. This is the kind of album that must be listened to a few times before it can truly be appreciated. There's so many great moments that I think it's going out on a limb to bold Fuxity up right alongside Pot Songs and Sgt. Pepper. Wilco is one of the most exciting bands of our time.

Arts and Entertainment
Athlete of the Week
Jason Laatz

Beaulah Vaz
TechNews Writer

Jason Laatz is a junior at IIT in the Mechanical Engineering department. He studies here on an athletic scholarship (for baseball) and the President's Scholarship (for academics). He has been a pitcher on the Scarlet Hawks baseball team since his freshman year at IIT.

Laatz started playing baseball at 7. He played on various little leagues and then went on to play for his Lyons Township High School team. While in high school, he also played as a tight end on the football team. He won many accolades for both. During his senior year, he was named to the All Conference team for both baseball and football. He was also named All Area, All Conference and All State Academic Scholar during his senior year.

Laatz came to IIT to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering. He has been a great asset to the Scarlet Hawks. His most recent achievement was throwing the winning pitch versus St. Francis on the 12th of April. On occasion, Laatz also plays first base.

Laatz is the middle child; he has an older sister and a younger sister. He lives on campus and visits home as often as he can. He is an avid sports fan and enjoys watching all sports during his free time.

Laatz hopes to have a successful career as a Mechanical Engineer after he graduates from IIT. He intends to pursue a career in baseball at a higher level, and hopefully coach a team someday.

Baseball Conference Standings (as of 4/14/02)

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Upcoming Hawks Baseball Games

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