IIT Professors Win Prestigious Awards

Phil Rosen
Submission

Two Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) professors received special recognition from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) for their ongoing research in particle technology. The honors came during the just-concluded AIChE annual meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The AIChE award recipients are Darsh Wasan, vice president for international affairs, Motorola Chair and professor of chemical and environmental engineering, and Dimitri Gidaspov, a professor of chemical and environmental engineering.

Wasan received the Thomas Baron Award in Fluid-Particle systems. Wasan presented her latest research on the spreading of "nanofluids" on solid surfaces, including an optical imaging technique to observe the phenomenon. His findings have widespread industry applications, including improved ways of handling soil remediation and the disposal of nuclear waste.

Wasan has been recognized repeatedly for his groundbreaking contributions to the field of particle technology.

They Might Be Giants?!?

Anthony "Vito" DeSalvatore
TMBG Fan

So, 'They Might Be Giants' is going to play IIT. It's been my experience that, upon the receipt of that information, you respond in one of two ways. If you started jumping up and down uncontrollably while screaming "Holy colorful expletive-of-choice deleted!!! TMBG is going to play HERE???? I've gotta go make all my friends jealous!!!" then you'll probably know everything I'm about to explain in this article. I'd suggest you read it anyway, just because I wrote it. However, this article is intended for those poor deprived souls who looked at all the happy people jumping up and down, scratching their heads, and said, "What's the big deal? And just who is this 'They Might Be Giants' anyway?"

Simply put, 'They Might Be Giants' (TMBG), in my opinion, and judging by the amount of jumping and screaming I've been hearing lately, in many other's opinions as well, is one of the best bands ever. You may know them already. You know the theme song for Malcolm in the Middle? TMBG sings that. Do you remember, back in the day, watching Tiny Toon Adventures? Do you remember the music video episode? Well, there were two TMBG songs in that episode ("Particle Man" starred Plucky Duck as a wrestler, and "Istanbul (Not Constantinople)" starred Plucky Duck and Hampton Pig as detectives in Istanbul).

But back to why you should love TMBG. First, lyrics. I've never heard anybody write lyrics the way John and John (yeah, they're both named John) write 'em. Examine, if you will, this excerpt from "Bedhouse in Your Soul".

I'm your only friend
I'm not your only friend
But I'm a little glowing friend
But really, I'm not actually your friend

But I am
Or this one from "Everything Right is Wrong Again":
Don't you want to know the reason
Why the cupboard's not appealing
Don't you get the feeling that Everything's right is wrong again
You're a weasel overcome with dinge
Weasel overcome, but not before the damage done
The healing doesn't stop the feeling

cont'd on page 4.
Dear Editors

I am writing on behalf of myself and many of my peers, classmates, and fellowmates, and also our faculty advisors, to express our severe frustration over the fact that there will be no printed schedule for us to use when making our class schedules. This is a major mistake!

The online system is only useful for browsing through to see what courses you want to take, as a preview. Then it is useful for entering in catalog codes to actually register. It is not nearly seamless enough to support a schedule-making effort.

The digital interface completely sucks in comparison to paper format. You can’t mark it up with a highlighter or pen, you can’t bookmark pages for looking back (the stupid web thing doesn’t even support the browser’s “back” and “for-ward” buttons!), you can’t take it with you in your book bag, and you get a worse headache from looking at the computer monitor for hours. Need I reminisce about how difficult it is to work out a usable schedule in the first place? And the system is way too slow for efficient multiple page-viewing. Believe me, I’ve tried. For example, there is NO WAY to quickly see if my CS classes will conflict with the humanities classes I want to take.

It is going to be HORRIBLE when everyone tries to log on next Monday and view the schedule. The system is going to crash, and some people will not be able to register. And for bono’s sake, it’s not even in a form that can conveniently be printed out (a nice way to use our 300 free pages courtesy of CNS!) If the Administration does not change its ways, stop being lazy and cheap with JIT’s resources, no one will benefit.

Why has the administration chosen to do this? I don’t think the message on that friendly little red card that I received in my mailbox had a microgram of relevance or truth in it. This is anti-convenience. What is at most institutions a highly organized and sophisticated community activity, at JIT it has become a pig-rush.

Regards,

Daniel Wolkenfeld
Secrets To Research

Himanshu Ray
TechNews Writer

Why are patents significant? According to Udi, "Patents are important in research because they are the only source of technical information available from a company regarding their research.

Published technical papers just provide technical know-how in which research is conducted. Patents contain detailed information regarding each and every step involved in research as well as specification, design manuals and details that are generally edited in technical papers. Most importantly, after completion of the research, a technical paper is published from six to eight months later while a patent is available within a week or two after the completion of research. Patents are a great source to find the latest research on a worldwide scale. United States Patents are listed at http://www.uspto.gov, and international Patents are available at http://ep.espacenet.com.

When you are looking for information on patents, dissertations or just looking for some facts and figures or addresses, you should move on to gray literature. The term "Gray Literature" is often used to describe publications prepared by various levels of government, by colleges and universities, and by businesses and industry, which are not produced or distributed commercially. Gray literature includes reports, such as technical reports, pre-prints, research papers, preliminary reports, and statistical reports. These documents typically describe personal observations, references and confidential data that is cut or severely abbreviated if and when the report reaches the journal literature stage. Prominent sources of gray literature are http://www.nist.gov, http://www.ncsttl.gov, http://xxx.lanl.gov. During your research work, you may need to follow certain standards. Standards are important for safety, reliability, quality and consistency of products and processes across international borders. Prominent sources of international standards include http://www.ansi.org, http://www.nsm.org and of course the most popular ISO.

Students were delighted when Udi announced that students can access patents, online digital dissertations and theses at IIT from the Galvin library's database page. Also, IIT has purchased proxy access which allow students to access IEEE journals and technical papers which otherwise can be accessed only by IEEE members.

If you missed this workshop, Galvin Library offers regular workshops on these subjects. For in-depth assistance and more information, contact Charles Uh at (312) 567-5319 or udi@iit.edu.
Jaded About Your Job Search?

Kerry Parke
Submission

Today's college students and recent graduates are facing the toughest entry-level job market in many years. The nation's unemployment rate has been over five percent for the past year and currently stands at 5.7 percent, its highest level since the microchip shortage that took place two years ago when America was at its lowest unemployment rate in over 40 years. However, you may conclude that the class of 2003 is destined to struggle for income while living with their parents. If you happen to be the class of 2003, take a deep breath. Your job search may be difficult, but not impossible, be aware of what you're up against and be inventive with your job search tactics and you will find a position.

"With few available jobs and a competitive hiring process, today's graduates need to differentiate themselves and develop creative ways to showcase their experience," said Dean of Career Services, Vice President, Staffing, Inc. Companies. Not only will the class of 2003 be competing with their peers, but those that graduated before them were also competing with the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), the number of graduates hired from the class of 2002 dropped a full 36 percent from the previous year. To further complicate matters, recent college graduates laid-off workers are crowding the jobs market. "Entry-level job seekers are entering the workforce at a time when there are millions of unemployed people. It may be competitive for similar positions," said System.

Today's lean job market calls for extraordinary job search methods. "It's time for today's students to be more proactive and thoughtful in their job search," said Eric West, managing partner, Student Monitor. "Tweaking resumes, brushing up on interviewing skills and regularly attending job fairs are a few ways to increase your chances of landing a job."

These days, everyone whether already employed or actively seeking work - is a resume ready to show prospective employers, jobseekers, especially those who can stand out from the crowd, but they should also seek out ways to offer tangible evidence of their skills. The pool of jobs has dwindled while the number of graduates has increased, making it crucial to differentiate oneself from fellow jobseekers. As an example, a portfolio not only showcases one's personal style, it's an easy way to impress employers with their expertise. For the job fair, the beginner, the idea of networking may be somewhat intimidating. Don't let that put you off, make it more than it is. Networking is simply talking to people, starting with those you already know, letting them know you are looking for a job and asking for their advice. Why is it so critical? Because it is networking that opens the door to your future. How can you get better at networking? Practice networking with others. Maybe today's tough job market is a blessing in disguise and your struggle will lead you to your dream job.

Summary of Incident Reports, completed by Public Safety, for the period of October 24, 2002, through October 31, 2002

October 26, 2002
At 11:50 a.m., a student in the Continuing Education program at Public Safety was seen with a large bag of alcohol.

October 27, 2002
At 5:40 p.m., a student at the Emergency Department was involved in a car accident.

October 31, 2002
At 8:00 p.m., a student was involved in a car accident.

Professors

research on emulsions, foams and thin films, in particular the forces that control the emulsion movement and stability. Among his numerous honors: an American Chemical Society Award in colloid or surface chemistry, the Boschaswani Swaminarayan TMGB!

At first glance, they both seem rather nonsensical (they should, I specifically picked weird ones). Closer examination reveals a neat little mix of word rhythms reminiscent of Edgar Allen Poe, a liberal sprinkling of puns, a dash of self-reflecting humor, and a startling ability to convey emotions through the "nonse." In fact, most of TMGB's songs can be appreciated on multiple levels, and repeat listening may reveal new interpretations. Stylistically, TMGB has evolved quite a bit. Their early recordings tended to be drum machine-heavy, with guitar, saxophone, or accordion accompaniment. In the '80s, they started adding band members (at one point, even a string ensemble). In their current incarnation, John Linnell and John Flansburgh sing and play guitars/keyboards. The "Band of Dams" (Dan Houser, Tim Miller, & Andrew Malamud) take care of drums, backing guitar, and bass, respectively. While it's fitting to define any genre TMGB fits into, fans of Barnes & Noble's put TMGB in the "Alternative" section, which might be the most accurate definition of them all. TMGB puts on an awesome show. They've got a few of their songs is a musical explanation of how the sun works), and thus, they tend to have quirky senses of humor. They really interact with the audience, and while other bands might have pycrotechnics or other tricks, TMGB does what they do very well. For $5, I encourage all of IST to attend. You just might find your new favorite band.

Santha Pride of India Award and the Fine Particle Society's Hauser Award. He is also the only engineering scientist to twice receive the National Science Foundation's Special Creativity Award.

Gidasprow received AlChE's Lectureship Award in Fluidization, Gidasprow's fluidization research focuses on what happens to small particles when they move in either gas or liquid. The resulting data offers a wide range of industry uses, including the creation and processing of new and improved products.

Gidasprow is known internationally for applying kinetic theory to gas-solid flow systems and fluidization. He received the Donald C. Kern Award in 1985 and also shared a National Science Foundation Creativity Award with Wasan, for their work in separation of particles in non-aqueous media.

October 27, 2002
At 11:30 a.m., Public Safety responded to a call from Siegel Hall concerning the theft of a red and black coat.

October 29, 2002
At 6:15 p.m., the Student Safety was dispatched to the residence hall for a possible disturbance.

October 30, 2002
At 8:37 p.m., Public Safety was dispatched to a disturbance in the University Center. The event was later determined as a disturbance.

October 26, 2002
At 11:50 a.m., a student in the Continuing Education program at Public Safety was seen with a large bag of alcohol.

October 27, 2002
At 5:40 p.m., a student at the Emergency Department was involved in a car accident.

October 31, 2002
At 8:00 p.m., a student was involved in a car accident.

SUPPLEMENTAL/EXTRACTIONS

On October 31, 2002, Public Safety responded to an incident involving a student who was involved in an accident.
October 15 - November 30, 2002

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Equal Opportunity Employer
Kaplan Fellows Visit Silicon Valley

Sanjaka Wirasinha
TechNews Writer

What is the Kaplan Fellows program you might wonder? It is a selective two-year multidisciplinary program introduced to give students a real entrepreneurial experience, exposing them to all aspects of the startup and growth of new technology businesses. This program is designed for students who are planning to go into networking and entrepreneurship ventures, or want to develop a better understanding of what entrepreneurship is and what it might be like to work for a startup company. As part of the Undergraduate College on the Main Campus, the Ed Kaplan Entrepreneurial Studies Program is primarily directed at providing technologists with the skills they need to become leaders in technological ventures. However, entrepreneurship is by its nature multidisciplinary, so the program is open to and depends on the participation of IIT students from all disciplines.

The program consists of a series of courses which include Introduction to Business Entrepreneurship and Creativity and Inventions for Entrepreneurs. Students are also required to participate in special EnDos, entrepreneurship labs.

For more information on the courses or how you can join the program itself, check it out at the web site at http://www.iit.edu/entrepreneurship/

The Kaplan fellows were out on their first field trip, so to speak, when they flew out to Silicon Valley, San Jose last week for a week long push at the guidance of Dr. Jay Fisher, Director, Ed Kaplan Entrepreneurial Studies Program. They experienced the buzz of Silicon Valley along with its success stories and many failures. They learned many aspects of real world entrepreneurship.

The first morning was spent visiting the San Jose Office of Economic Development. Where the students were educated on the beginnings of Silicon Valley and its social and economic structure, as well as the "Software Business Cluster" where Charles Ericson, an IIT Alum, spoke on how startup received guidance and help in silicon valley. A visit to Cisco was scheduled for the evening, and it was the last day of the trip. The trades at which their routes operated and there latest development the IP Phones were amazing. The last morning was spent at Telesoft, a venture capitalist firm where the students were given an insight into the world of a venture capitalist and how a start-up operates. Sudhob Toprani, IIT Alum, and the CEO of Infinon, took over after and demonstrated what his company has done and has in store for the future.

It was now time to head west to San Francisco. Collin Evans, a co-founder of Liquid Seats was the picture of a true entrepreneur. His company provides online services for visitors to buy and sell event tickets. This done, it was time for fun in the city and was topped off by an awesome dinner.

Matthew Pearson, a third year undergraduate sums up the general consensus of all the Kaplan fellows: "The trip to San Jose provided the ideal educational experience for a future entrepreneur. Meeting with a wide variety of different entrepreneurs or people somehow involved with startup businesses provided a multi-faceted, well-rounded description of entrepreneurship. It was far more valuable than any entrepreneurship course could ever be."

Illinois Tech Places in Top Five Percent
Home team pushes even closer to the top in ACM's programming contest

Sohan D'Souza
TechNews Writer

The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC), one of the most prestigious intercollegiate programming contests in the world, came to Illinois Tech this year. On Saturday, November 1st, 2nd, our team of eight students and two coaches were selected by their respective colleges to the Main Campus’ Stuart Building for nearly nine hours of fun, food, socializing and networking, all of which constituted a marathon of grueling problem solving.

The Mid-Central regional contest, one of the eleven regions of the North American continent, brought 103 teams from the American states of Illinois (including the Greater Chicago Metropolitan Area in Indiana), Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee together to compete in a test of programming knowledge, logical problem solving, analytical and mathematical skills, speed, coordination and judgment.

The Mid-Central contest is head-quartered in Southwest Missouri State University, and was run at nine sites across the Mid-Central region this year, one of which was Illinois Tech.

The event was sponsored by IBM, and partly by CNS and Professor Reingold, a professor in the Computer Science department. It was proposed, organized and coordinated by Professor Gruta Calinescu, also from the Computer Science Department. The city, as of one of the pages during the contest, was home to as many as 100 teams. The two qualifying teams were flown to Beverly Hills, California for the World Finals.

The event began with the "Arrival and Check-in" phase, running from 9:00 AM to 9:30 AM. To register their last eleven teams competed in the contest at the Illinois Tech site. Two teams, each consisting of three individuals, were sent from each participating university: DePaul University, Knox College, Loyola University Chicago. After the teams were each given two computers, one of which was to remain deactivated unless their primary computer failed. At 12:57 PM, the contest officially began, and the teams opened their problem envelopes.

There were several problems in the contest, and an increase in the number from the previous version was the standard set for two years ago. The standard strategy is to sort the problems by difficulty, and solve the easiest ones first, before tackling the harder ones. IIT-Dublin placed third in the competition, behind Illinois Tech's Dr. Calinescu as well as DePaul University's Ljubomir Perkovic, Knox College's John Dooley, and the Head Judge from Loyola University Chicago, Andrew Harrington. At 12:30 PM, the go-ahead was given, and the contestants filled into the SB-112 Computer Lab, settling in for their stations.

At 1:27 PM, the contest officially began, and the teams opened their problem envelopes.

The problems were seven in number, with an increase in the number of problems from the previous year. The standard strategy is to sort the problems by difficulty, and solve the easiest ones first, before tackling the harder ones. The problems are often created by the most experienced team members based on their particular strengths and talents. This is due to the fact that the goal of the contest is to solve as many problems as possible, and solve each in the minimum amount of time as measured from the beginning of the contest. The teams are able to communicate directly with the judges via the problem's content via dial-up request forms.

In addition to a team of ten, the judges used software that they wrote. The students were only the solution to the judges for evaluation. The judges run the solutions through a number of representative test cases, and either approve the solution, or reject it and send it back to the team along with a statement of the error type. Rejected solution gets them a penalty of 20 minutes of the total time. The team members can also zero in to next week's instead of working on the problems on paper by themselves. Each team has a printing account so they are able to print code and debug it on paper, thus saving time.

Participants are allowed to bring as much written or printed material into the lab as they please, although the use of any electronic communication devices is prohibited. Pizza, coffee, soda and doughnuts were still available throughout the contest. With a busy bar and cafeteria in stock, all the necessary nutritional support was in place for contestants.

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Restaurant Review: Chez Catinat

Sohan D’Souza
TechNews Writer

Chez Catinat, despite its seemingly French name, is a Vietnamese Restaurant. Located on the North Side in an area known for a high concentration of South East Asian restaurants and shops. It features excellent ethnic food, interesting decor, and a casual atmosphere.

Chez Catinat’s airy interior is clean and very bright during the day, thanks to the heavy mirror paneling on the black stone walls. The paper globe lanterns and the lamps mounted on the polished steel ceiling fans light up the place at night. Not a whole lot of art is on display, leaving the restaurant looking more functional than ethnic. There are, however, plenty of potted plants and creepers around.

The furnishings seem strictly functional, but very comfortable, consisting mostly of cushioned armchairs around large round or rectangular sheeted tables topped with glass. The cutlery and crockery are simple, but a generous variety of seasonings and sauces are available at hand for those who like to tinker with the flavor of their food.

The waiting staff at Chez Catinat is courteous and soft-spoken, and offer assistance with selection of the menu items. The service is pleasantly quick and efficient. The staff is also genuinely amiable, and occasionally makes small conversation with the customer.

A very approachable, and somewhat clever, move on the restaurant’s part is the picture-based menu. Most of the entrees, soups, and appetizers are pictured in the menu in all their visually tantalizing glory. This is very helpful in making selections from the menu, as your order arrives pretty much as it appears in the picture.

The menu can be divided into six major categories: Soups, Vermicelli/ Noodle Dishes, Vietnamese Rolls, Rice Plates, Desserts and Beverages. Soup options include the Tonkinese Beef Soup (sliced tender beef and meatballs in rice noodle beef flavored soup), the Tonkinese Chicken Soup (strips of chicken in rice noodle chicken flavored soup), and the very tasty Cochinchin Soup (shrimp and pork in rice noodle southern flavored soup).

Vermicelli/Noodle dishes include Bun Bo Xao Sa (lemongrass flavored beef on vermicelli and greens), Bun Thit Nuong (grilled pork on vermicelli and greens), Pho Ap Chao (pan stir fried rice noodles with beef and vegetables), and the ever popular Hanoi Platter (Hanoi styled pork on vermicelli and greens).

Try a roll or two, especially the Cha Gio (imperial roll) or the house special recipe Catinat roll (grilled pork, vermicelli, lettuce and herbs wrapped in rice paper). Most rolls are served with a sweet and sour dipping sauce.

Rice plates consist of an entree along with fried or steamed rice and various kinds of vegetables. These include Com Nuong Lui Ga/Bo/To (grilled brochettes of chicken/beef/shrimp), Com Ca Ri Ga/Bo (curried chicken/beef), and Com Ga Xao Sa Ot (spicy lemongrass chicken).

The very delectable Com Bo Lac is an excellent choice, comprised of stir-fried cubes of Vietnamese-style beef steak with rice and greens, quite possibly the one of the finest South East Asian steak dishes in town.

Some of the dessert options are Che Ba Mau (three color bean drink) and Kem Plan (caramel egg pudding), as well as the weird-tasting Xi Muoi (mariinated plum drink). A variety of fruit-based donut-like items are also available, all glazed with honey and sesame seeds.

Beverages include the Thuong (special coffee), Da Chanh (fresh-squeezed lemonade), and Sua Dua Nhan (soya milk).

The prices at Chez Catinat are pretty decent; a meal for one in this restaurant may cost between 7 and 12 dollars, not a bad deal for such generous portions and great service. Speaking of price, it is possible to get your fill on less than ten dollars, whereas the credit card minimum is fifteen dollars. So, unless you plan to eat with friends or grab a take out, try to bring cash.

Chez Catinat is also a good place for casual social dining. For a filling and delicious Vietnamese treat at a great price, try Chez Catinat.
Telecom pioneer to lecture at IIT
Sam Pitroda revolutionized phone service in India

Media Relations
Press Release

Sam Pitroda is credited with connecting rural India with the rest of the world. Today, as CEO of WorldTel, headquartered in London, UK, Pitroda is considered to be a leading authority on telecommunications and technology for developing countries.

On Thursday, November 21, 2002, Pitroda, who received a Master of Science in electrical engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in 1966, returns to his alma mater to lecture on entrepreneurship. The lecture is the second in IIT’s series of “Thought Leaders Seminars,” sponsored by IIT’s Ed Kaplan Entrepreneurial Studies Program and the Leadership Academy.

Along with his leadership of WorldTel, Pitroda, a native of India, is also a founding member and vice chairman of the World Telecom Advisory Council in Geneva. By 1980, Pitroda was a successful telecommunications entrepreneur in the United States. He was involved in the invention and evolution of digital switching at GTE. He then struck out for himself—founding Wescom Switching Inc., which Rockwell International later acquired. Since then, Pitroda has started numerous businesses. He also served as Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi’s Minister for National Technology Missions and was the first chairman of India’s Telecom Commission. Before his work in India, Pitroda had a successful career in the United States, designing and manufacturing digital switching technology. He also invented the popular pocket electronic diary.

Pitroda holds over 50 world-wide patents and has received numerous awards including, India’s National Citizen’s Award for work on telecom from the Prime Minister of India. In 1995, he was awarded the IIT Alumni Medal, and in 1998 the International Distinguished Leadership Award.

Pitroda’s lecture is the second of six in the “Thought Leaders Seminar” series at IIT, and are free and open to the public. All take place at Perelman Hall Auditorium, 10 W. 33rd Street, at 4 p.m. A question and answer session follows.

The remaining schedule of “Thought Leaders Seminars” is as follows:

Feb. 3, 2003
Karl Klessig, former CEO, Xdrive Technologies, Inc.
March 11, 2003
Craig Watson, president, Payment Engineering, LLC.
April 8, 2003
Frank Kreusi, president, Chicago Transit Authority
April 22, 2003
Sandy Lamantia, CEO, Shure, Inc.
Christine Schyrvinck, VP for operations, Shure, Inc.

Lunch With an Alum: Danny Creed

Sehan D’Souza
TechNews Writer

Danny Creed, an Electrical Engineering graduate of the class of 1979, is an alumnus who has continued to maintain close links with his alma mater. He serves on the Alumni Association Board as the Vice President for Alumni Services. He also represents his company, Lucent Technologies, at Illinois Tech’s career fairs.

On Friday the 8th of November, he paid a visit to his old neighborhood and to the college he still holds dear; this time to advise and encourage students, and to share a meal with them.

Creed said that he lives in the city, so he passes by Illinois Tech three to four times a week, mentioning that, when he visits the campus, he feels like he is coming home. He joked that the operative word in “Lunch with an Alum” is “lunch”, and how he didn’t want to stand between the audience and the same.

He stated, “Blessed are the brief, for they shall be invited back”, eliciting hearty laughter from the audience.

Creed was born and raised on the South side of Chicago, and said that still lives not too far from where he was born. He also went to school on the South Side, and came to Illinois Tech in 1974, spending five years at the university as an undergraduate. For his first year at Illinois Tech, he was on the baseball team, until one Fall practice, when he was hit in the eye by a baseball, stayed in hospital for about a month, and ended up losing the eye. He says he learnt one thing from the experience: baseball was not his career.

He graduated from Illinois Tech in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, and said he had completed enough classwork for a minor in both computer science and business management. While at Illinois Tech, he was a very active member of what was then called the Black Student Organization, the National Technical Association and the President’s Disciplinary Committee, and was an officer in the Interfraternity Council. He spent a few moments talking about life in the dorms.

He described how he helped found the Illinois Tech chapter of the NSBE, and how his student activities helped open a lot of doors for him. He talked about how the Bell Labs, who paid for his tuition, room, board and books, while giving him a summer job. He says he “very blessed to have a real career opportunity, being an employee of Bell Laboratories during the summer.” After he graduated, he joined Bell Labs as a full time employee, and continued his education at the University of Michigan to receive a Master’s degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

In 1984, Creed was promoted to management, and has been working out of Naperville in that capacity ever since. Since 1993, he has been acting as a recruiter for Bell Labs, and now for Lucent Technologies, which has given him an opportunity to come to Illinois Tech and do recruiting work here. He pointed out that many former students at Illinois Tech have become successful employees of Lucent Technologies.

He described the history of his company, and how the R&D facility of Bell Labs broke away and became Lucent Technologies. He talked about the Internet boom, and subsequent bust. He also mentioned about how the affect economy has had on the company’s hiring rates, and how the sudden change in the consumer attitudes as a result of this downturn has resulted in a disruption of the planning and asset usage of telecommunication companies.

He reiterated that he was very active in student organizations at Illinois Tech, and said that it was very beneficial for him, helping him establish a network of contacts and associates in the industry. He talked about the importance of good communication, being able to sell one’s ideas, the virtues of knowing how to accept and compromise when necessary, and the understanding of organizational dynamics, and how he learned such values and skills from being in student organizations. During the subsequent Q&A period, he talked about trade magazines, such as the IEEE and ACTJ journals, and the Wall Street Journal.

More information about the Alumni Association’s Lunch With An Alum program may be found at http://www.iit.edu/alumni/events/lunch.html
ACM cont'd

Barely 10 minutes had passed when Illinois Tech team IIT-A bravely took the regional lead by turning in the correct solution to the "Magnificent Meatball" problem. The correctness of their strategy was confirmed soon enough when the other teams also turned in this problem. Half an hour into the contest, IIT-A had slipped to second place, as they fiercely battled with both U of I's and Stanford at the top. Dark clouds had gathered by the 90 minute mark, as IIT-A slipped to the 10th rank regionally.

However, by the third hour, IIT-A had enough problems solved to grapple its way back up to second place by the fourth hour. Just moments later, U of I turned in their seventh problem solution, and the leading home team slipped further down to third place. As IIT-A struggled with their seventh and final problem, two other teams, University of Arkansas and University of Kentucky, turned in their final problem solutions.

As the tradition goes, two of the problems to be solved by the participants would be minimally difficult, two would be moderately difficult, and one would be time-dependent. While Illinois Tech had shown dramatic fighting spirit thus far, getting every one of their first six solutions right on the very first try, the seventh problem, which, as it turns out, had a time-dependent solution, proved to be an uphill battle.

IIT-A ended up attempting the solution to this problem, called "Hilbert Curve Intersections," eight times, but was ultimately unsuccessful by the time the five hour closing mark had been reached. This was attributed to their implementation of the recursive strategy. Apparently, the trouble was caused by a small unidentified error on a single line of code.

As the final stand chart revealed, only the top three teams had turned in this problem, and IIT-A placed fourth, with six problems solved. IIT-B placed seventeenth, with four out of seven problems solved. With the leading home team rank up to 4 out of 103, Illinois Tech was firmly in the top five percent for the first time. Also, they had placed second on-site, U of I team B placing first.

The final Mid-Central rankings placed University of Illinois Team B in first place, University of Arkansas Team A in second place, and University of Kentucky Team B in third place, with Illinois Tech Team A in fourth place. The top two teams will go on to the World Finals in Beverly Hills, California in the Spring. After the results were announced, certificates and T-shirts were ceremoniously handed to the winners, participants and staff.

Without doubt, a lot of effort by Illinois Tech staff, faculty and students was put into this endeavor. Every Spring, the Illinois Tech chapter of ACM hosts a programming contest for Chicagoland, modeled along the lines of the ICPC. During the last Spring semester, Dr. Calinescu created, structured, and administrated CS-397 "Special Projects," a course specifically geared towards selecting and training programmers for the ICPC.

Calinescu, who has already had experience with the ICPC as a participant and a coach, also organized three training sessions for the teams during the Fall semester. The teams got progressively better through their training sessions, increasing their solution count every time they went through a practice run. From next semester on, Calinescu will be organizing the effort to prepare for the 2003 Mid-Central ICPC regional, to be held at Loyola university, and would like students who are interested in participating or volunteering to e-mail him at calinescu@babagoo2.cs.illinois.edu.

The most recent highest mark in the ICPC was reached by an Illinois Tech team in 2000, when a team composed of Nickolay Tchervenskiy, the now graduated Freddy Guima, and Sohan D'Souza, and coached by Robert Reicher, placed in the top ten percent with a rank of 7 out of 102 teams. The year before, an Illinois Tech team had drastically pushed its way into the top fifteen percent with a rank of 13 out of 110. The extrapolation of this trend certainly looks promising; Illinois Tech is steadily inching its way up the ICPC ladder towards the penultimate prize: qualification for the World Finals.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to the closure of the 35th St. bridge over the Dan Ryan Expressway, the IIT-Comiskey Parking Shuttle Bus route has been changed. The direction of the route has been reversed and some of the stops have been relocated. Please visit www.parking.iit.edu to view the updated map, and direct any questions to the HawkCard & Parking Services Office.

The Counseling Center announces a Stress Management Workshop for IIT students, starting Thursday, October 31 from 5 to 6:15 pm in Farr Hall. The group will meet for four consecutive Monday evenings. Participants will learn to understand the nature of stress, identify stressful situations, recognize effects of stress in their lives, cope with stressful situations, and use techniques to prevent being overwhelmed by stress. Please call Shona Vas or Nick Johnson at (312) 808-7132 to enroll.

Advertise in the classified section for only $20. This offer is only for registered IIT students with valid ID. At least four issues minimum advertisement required.
Hats Off to the Eminem Show

Raj Patil
TechNews Writer

So maybe the first time you heard "The Real Slim Shady", your interest was peaked by the self-appraising fervor of Eminem. The song was catchy and it had a tendency to stick with a lot of people. Eventually, much of the media never recognized the ability of many of his songs, but spread it thin by overplaying his most popular hits. Controversy and protest came hand in hand when mentioning Eminem in any situation. Many fan and others grew tired, but only a short time later did his popularity emerge like a chasm of fire waiting to explode. Eminem finds himself spitting out lyrics, song after song, with a violent aggression that draws all sorts of listeners and fans addicted to him and his music.

Just by looking at the previews for 8 Mile can give you a sense of what the film is really about. The previews might even give you a hint of substance, the potential that Eminem might actually have some more talent lurking behind his hood and cap. Eminem's character Jimmy, is a young Caucasian in a ghetto neighborhood struggling to emerge as a freestyle rapper. He works at a steal press and lives with his mother (Kim Basinger). Jimmy's only solace are the rhymes he scribbles, his precious younger sister, and the dream to escape his tormented life.

Jimmy's friend, Future (Mekhi Phifer), believes that Jimmy has the talent and ability to make it big time. His other friends are hilarious and show tremendous support at all times. Jimmy ends up ditching his former girlfriend who claims to be pregnant, and falls for a sketchy girl (Brittany Murphy), who later betrays him while trying to make it big in the modeling business.

Jimmy's problems ensue as his mother's deadbeat boyfriend takes advantage of her and mistreats Jimmy himself. All these problems, and the addition of a group of rappers who have an intense dislike for white rappers, combine to make Jimmy torrid and angered to get out of his hell.

Eminem shows some real ability; his emotions ranged from stoic, to caring for his little sister, to violent aggression against his former friend and his mom's deadbeat boyfriend. The story line is well developed, and the freestyle lyrics are clever, even though plenty of vulgarity is passed around like beer at a baseball game. The movie is filled with Eminem's original music as hits of Notorious B.I.G. and Tupac Shakur are played in the background.

So, if you have sensitive ears, or can't handle watching the raw truth of this subject matter, I wouldn't recommend this film to you.

If you aren't a fan of Eminem, or don't like rap, it doesn't matter; this movie is about a man's struggle through life, and the people in the movie and the audience seem to be pulling for him as all of Jimmy's actions seem justified. This movie is well done, and by no means should it be considered a flop such as Mariah Carey's "Glitter". Eminem should get credit where credit is due, hats off to the Eminem Show.

Rating 4/4
Swimmers
College Pioneers. The IIT men crushed Carroll, 112 to 43, and the IIT women had a disappointing close loss, 85 to 65.

The meet was swum with the "long" events instead of the "short" events, meaning that the events that were normally 200 yards were now 400 yards, and the events that were normally 100 yards were now 200 yards, which gave IIT swimmers the chance to qualify to Nationals in these more events. The men's 400 yard Medley relay swam an impressive race with a Nationally qualifying, and first place time of 3:50.86.

The other two qualifying times were swim by Jef Larson, who swam a 4:35.13 to qualify in the 400 yard individual Medley and a 2:20.99 to qualify in the 200 yard Breaststroke.

The next meet for the swim team is coming Sunday, November 15th. It will be an exciting home meet against the University of Chicago and Loras College. Everyone is invited to come and cheer on the Hawks as they try to beat the opposition and quality more swimmers to Nationals.

IIT VOLLEYBALL RESULTS

November 05, 02IT vs. St. Xavier University
IIT Lost to St. Xavier University Game 1Game 2Game 3 3-23-2002 3-1110-315 Key Stats: Lauren Joyce | 32 assists Amanda Leiffer | 18 kills, 4 blocks Jenn Wanzek | 4 blocks Devan McCarty | 8 kills

November 07, 02IT vs. Indiana Univ. Northwest
IIT defeated Indiana Univ. Northwest Game 1Game 2Game 3 3-30-630-1330-13 Key Stats: Allison Leiffer | 7 assists, 6 kills Sarah Gwizda | 114 assists Lauren Joyce | 16 assists Jenn Wanzek | 7 assists Alexis Dulleinskas | 17 digs Bridget Dulleinskas | 14 digs Jackie Lange | 15 digs

Reservations for meetings or parties being taken Want to host a Poetry or Jam Night? CALL US!
What's Wrong with the Bears?

Paul Kroenke
Sports Editor

In an effort not to put the same hex on the Packets that I put on the Patriots earlier in the year, I am going to try not to mention the way they manhandled the Dolphins last Monday night. And I'm certainly not going to throw the tag of "Best Team" on them. I don't need my team losing four straight, too. Rather, right now, I'm going to take a look at the Bears and exactly what it is that's going wrong with this team this year.

Last season, the Bears went 13-3 with a suffocating, opportunistic defense, and a grind-it-out, get-the-job-done offense. This season, the Bears are currently 2-6, and not looking like they're really going to turn things around any time soon. The offense is floundering, and the defense is struggling to keep the team in games. The defensive players are even beginning to criticize offensive coordinator John Shoop for not calling a more wide-open type of game that will put points on the board. But is the design of the offense really the biggest problem this team has? Quite simply, I am saying that it is.

The Bears do not have problems, per se, on defense. Aside from the fact that they lost four defensive early on in the season, the defense has been fairly solid throughout the year, save for giving up something like 160 yards rushing to James Stewart of the Lions a few weeks ago. Aside from that game, the defense has been keeping the Bears close in games, as evidenced by the fact that, of their six losses, four have come by margins of six points or less. Aside from this, in those losses, only two teams have scored over 20 points. The defense is overplaying its hands in those games was in overtime. In general, this would point to the fact that the offense isn't doing its job this season. This means that the offense isn't doing enough to keep up in games.

I've watched most of the Bears games this season and the offense is, for lack of a better term, worthless. The blocking for running plays hasn't been there and as such, Anthony Thomas' numbers are down considerably from last year. Without a decent running game, the Bears have been forced to pass more often, which if you know the Bears, isn't something line they were used to. Yet, though it is making Marty Booker look like a superstar this year with a 14.8 yards/catch average, and five touchdowns. However, the Bears' passing offense is best described as "dink and dunk," with many routes being run underneath and very few big-play opportunities. This would be fine if the run could generate short yardage passing situations, but as it is, the offense is left swinging in the breeze on many occasions. With skill-position players like Thomas and Booker, and Jim Miller posting his usual workman-like numbers, and linemen like Rex Tucker and Pro-Bowl center Olen Kreutz, the talent is there on offense at most every position. The skill players, however, can only do what the minds on the sidelines tell them to do, and with his "dink and dunk" offensive scheme, John Shoop is rot the right mind to lead players of this caliper.

Hawks Fall Short of Goals

Lauren Raetz
TechNews Writer

The 2002 cross-country season ended with the Conference meet and Regional meet on back to back weekends on the same course at Montrose Beach. Both had their moments of glory, but overall the results were disappointing for the Scarlet Hawks as they fell short of their goal.

The CCAC conference meet held seven teams in the women's division and six teams in the men's division. Both divisions were dominated by an amazing team: effort of Olivet Nazarene as all five of their scoring runners were among the top seven finishers in both races. The IIT men's team placed three runners in the top ten and ended up with a team ranking of fourth place. The women's team, however, finished in a disappointing last place. There were, nevertheless, several individual performances of note. Seth Carpenter finished in 9th place overall with his best time of the year, 28:24, earning him All Conference recognition. Also finishing in the top twenty was Doug Meyer at 14th place and a time of 29:35 and Wendell Holmes in 16th place and a time of 30:02. For the women, Amy Flechtner earned top twenty recognition, placing 16th overall with a time of 21:30. Lauren Raetz fell just shy, placing 21st with a time of 21:33.

The final meet of the year was the regional meet held November 9th. Once again, Olivet Nazarene swept both divisions, which sent their entire team on it's way to the National cross country meet in two weeks. Also heading to nationals are the top five individuals finishers, excluding the winning team.Nationals hopefuls Amy Flechtner and Seth Carpenter fell just shy of this goal. Anya placed 12th overall with her best time of the year 21:09, a mere 15 seconds off the time needed to make the coveted top five. For Seth Carpenter, the season was just a week too long, as he fell behind his stellar performance last week to place 16th overall with a time of 28:37. Though still a commendable finish, it was not enough to send him on his way to the national competition. Thus the season ended with pangs of regret. The story has not ended for these athletes, as all current runners are eligible to return next year for another chance to accomplish the goals that this year were just out of reach.

IT'S Week in Sports:

Tuesday:
7:00 PM - Women's Basketball vs. Indiana University (H)
8:00 PM - Volleyball: CCAC Playoffs (AT TRINITY INTERNATIONAL)

Thursday:
7:00 PM - Men's Basketball vs. Calumet College (H)
7:00 PM - Women's Basketball vs. Moody Bible Institute (H)

Friday:
6:00 PM - Swimming vs. Loyola and University of Chicago (H)

Saturday:
4:00 PM - Women's Basketball vs. College of St. Catherine (H)
3:00 PM - Men's Basketball vs. Loyola University (Away)

MIT Swimmers Making Gains

Brianna Swenson
TechNews Writer

The IIT swim team had two phenomenal meets this past weekend, with ten events already qualifying to the National meet in March. The weekend of fun started last Friday with a Triangular Meet against Lewis University and North Central College. IIT swam strong with seven events qualifying to Nationals even though the larger Lewis and North Central teams beat them in points. The meet was run in such a way that it counted as three different dual meets so the final scores for the men's team were: Lewis - 101, IIT - 74; IIT - 105, North Central - 54; Lewis - 127, North Central - 41; and for women: Lewis - 136, IIT - 46; North Central - 105, IIT - 60; Lewis - 130, North Central - 30.

Points aside, the big difference was the qualifying times that the swimmers posted. The first two events, the women's and men's 200 yard Medley Relays, both brought in two National qualifications with the women: Beth Freeman, Brianna Swenson, Amy Berbik and Kasey Bradley finished with a 2:05.89, three whole seconds under the qualification time. Later on in the meet, Amy Berbik qualified in two more events: the 500 yard Freestyle where she also took first place with a time of 5:33.62, and the 100 yard Butterfly with a time of 1:03.15. Andrew Peck also qualified in two more events, taking two-second place finishes in the 50 yard Freestyle with a 22.49, and in the 100 yard Freestyle with a 49.71. The last qualification of the day was Jet Larson in the 100 yard Breaststroke in which he took first place with a time of 1:04.97.

Saturday morning saw the exhausted swimmers traveling two and a half hours to Waukesha, Wisconsin to swim against the Carroll Cardinals on page 11.