IIT Greeks Kick Off Spring Rush

Nhat Nguyen
TechNews Writer

Winter in Chicago can be very cruel; a gust of wind can easily penetrate layers of coats, jackets, and sweaters. At times like those, all you want to do is huddle under a blanket and drink hot chocolate. For those brave souls that trekked across the blustery cold campus last Thursday, they were treated to good food and fun-filled games in the HUB’s ball room at the Spring Rush Kick-Off. The event was sponsored by Greek Council and kicked off the Spring Rush for this semester.

Thursday’s event mirrored the Taste of the Quad held during orientation in the fall. Like Taste of the Quad, the event was complete with finger foods and inflatable games such as foosball and bowling. It also featured a Velcro wall wherein students take turns performing slips onto the inflatable wall while hoping that their Velcro suit would defy gravity and prevent them from falling down.

“This is one of Greek Council’s first organized Spring Rush periods and we are hoping to show the IIT community what being involved in a Greek organization is really about. This event was planned to combine fun games along with providing information on the different houses in an informal atmosphere,” Andrina Joseph, Greek Council’s Rush Chair commented.

Rush period is a time for fraternities and sororities to meet prospective members as well as showcase the organizational department. Most chapters have organized free events throughout this week. Alpha Sigma Alpha (ASA) sorority has a Steak and Potato formal dinner planned, Kappa Phi Delta (Kappa) sorority organized an ice-skating event, while Phi Kappa Sigma (Skulls) have Whirlyball, a popular motorized sport combining basketball, ice hockey and bumper cars, on their event schedule.

For those who wish to become a part of the Greek system or are just curious, there will be open houses throughout the week. This is a great opportunity to check out the different chapters or even compare them. Whichever organization you choose, be sure that you are comfortable with your decision and know everything it has to offer.

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Student Activities Dept. Reorganized

Matt Walker
Editor-in-Chief

If you find yourself confused and lost when trying to find the Student Activities office, wander no further. This winter’s break marked a serious organizational change within the university. The Student Activities department will report directly to the Dean of Students in what has been dubbed a “natural” realignment of reporting structure.

Up until this semester, the department reported to the director of the Merchandise Union Building, or HUB, and had done so since 1995. The change was proposed for a meeting in November by Vice President of Enrollment and Student Affairs John Baworowski to improve the student-related arm of the administration and the quality of life on campus.

During the 1990’s, IIT followed a national collegiate trend, combining student activities departments with campus unions. In 1995, Student Activities was combined with the HUB in a logical effort at synergy between the two groups. With the coming completion of the McCormick Student Center, the HUB will become a full time conference facility. For Paul Terzino, Director of the Merchandise Union and formerly of Student Activities, this change means an expansion of managerial duties over the HUB, the campus center and the new conference program.

The administration recognized that for those new commitments to succeed, Terzino would need to be able to give them the attention they will demand. “He needs to be able to focus on the future, which is going to be here in June,” Dean of Students Doug Geiger commented. June is the scheduled completion date for the new student center.

Still in his first year as Dean of Students, Dean Geiger now finds director of the Center for Multicultural Programs, Residence Life, Special Events & Programs, Student Activities, Student Health, Women’s Center, Assistant Director of Greek Life and Campus Ministry - reporting directly to him. Filling what is now a clearly more powerful position than that of his predecessor, he also presides over a much more cohesive Student Affairs department. “It makes a natural kind of sense for us all to be part of the same team,” said Geiger. That sense was the other driving force for the changes. He added “(managing) the student side of a university well means the attention, direction, and overall; goal of student affairs has to be increased student satisfaction.”

The administration is hoping the unity afforded by these changes does just that. With the change, Student Activities joins the Residence Life Office as a reporting line to the Dean of Students and eventually will be housed in the same place. “This is going to be a semester of transition and temporary spaces,” announced Geiger at last Tuesday’s SLU meeting.

Over the holiday, the Student Activities office temporarily moved to the ceiling-less former office of Eric Schwister, the campus minister who has moved into the Student Affairs Office in Wishnick Hall. Now temporarily across from its former home in the Campus Information Center in the HUB, the department continues to work towards a new arrangement.

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Dear Readers,

When I first accepted the position of Editor-in-Chief, my goal was to bring integrity and professionalism to the newspaper. Over the past year, the TechNews staff and I have strived to make that goal a reality. In part, we have achieved that goal; there has been more coverage on campus activities, the layout has been more consistent, and the newspaper delivery has been timelier. Yet, there is more work to be done. Our staff will continue to work hard to keep our promise in providing you with a great publication, filled with useful information and intelligent commentary. I hope that you will continue to support TechNews in its endeavor to become your source of information and your voice in the IIT community.

This will mark the last time I will be working as your Editor-in-Chief. I would like to thank you for your support and assistance during my term, especially the Editorial Board as well as Anoop Atre, Charles Berry, Scott Peters, Phil Krop, and Veronica Ringel. Producing a weekly newspaper is a dream and a headache come true. It was very encouraging to know that I could always count on you for your support. I am sure that you will continue to be a great source of help to the newspaper and the new Editor-in-Chief. My congratulations go out to Matt Walker on his position as TechNews’ Editor-in-Chief. Matt was chosen from a field of well-qualified candidates. His vision and enthusiasm will undoubtedly add new facets to the newspaper.

Just as our university is in the midst of changes, exemplified by the new construction and policies, so is TechNews. Look out for our promotions as well as other innovative changes in future issues. If you are interested in joining TechNews, go to our meetings on Thursday or email technewspi11@iit.edu for more information.

We ask that you help us make TechNews the great newspaper it can be, even just by reading it. Remember, you cannot complain if you are not willing to change it yourself.

Sincerely,
H retaliation
Editor-in-Chief

When contacting the bookstore we would be more than happy to tell you if the required text is available for purchase. All other information may be obtained by visiting us at the bookstore located in The Commons building.

Illinois Institute of Technology contracted Barnes and Noble to operate their bookstore based on their reputation as a leader in the book industry by providing the right book, in the right place, at the right time. We were also selected based on our long tradition of personal customer service. The only way that we have been able to do those things accurately is by selling books in the store. Selling the book in the store ensures that you get the right edition, package or bundle of books for every class. In addition to making certain you get the correct book the first time, a large portion of our sales goes back to the school and students to support technology and student services.

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Store Manager IIT Bookstore
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Welcome the new Big Boss

Matt Walker
is the new Editor-in-Chief
at TechNews

Congratulations!

Letters to the Editor

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News

Word on the Street: Changing ID Cards

The recent email from the Hawk Card office began by stating, "In preparation for moving away from using Social Security numbers as student ID numbers later this spring, changes have been made to the campus meal plan system." Due to the busy time of year, attempts to get a new card from the Hawk Card office has not been successful, but this statement and past statements made by Ryan Wagner, soon departing HawkCard and Parking Services Manager, have indicated that this program will be in completion during or at the end of this semester. Students have long complained about the use of social security numbers as a publicly available and viewable means of identification. Due to recent tears over identity theft, and the many uses of the social security number, many other universities have long ago moved away from the system. HIT is apparently soon to follow suit. According to remarks made by Wagner disinclining Orientation Counselor training, in the fall of last year, it appears as though all students will eventually receive new cards and an entirely new way of being identified, through a randomly assigned number. More information on this topic will be available in the future, as the facts are nailed down. Look to TechNews to keep you up to date on this subject.

For those of you with meal plans who have yet to have your ID reprogrammed, it is extremely important to do so, as the cashiers will stop accepting non-updated cards on Monday, January 27th. Stop by the Hawk Card and Parking services office in the commons to have your card reprogrammed and to ask any question you may have.

Anxious in Academia

Counseling Center
Submission

Stress is a normal part of life for most people. Everybody experiences stress from time to time. All college students are at risk of experiencing stress, regardless of their major or academic ability. Many of you already know that the college environment is a stressful experience. Along with academic and social demands, college students are in the process of becoming independent adults, which means they have new financial demands as well. Some students are away from home for the first time, others may have to adjust to dormitory living, and many forge new relationships.

According to a recent UCLA survey of college freshmen, more than 80% reported feeling overwhelmed by a great deal of the time. Another recent study cited in the Chronicle of Higher Education reported that anxiety in college students has reached record levels. High stress levels reported among college students in the 1990s would be considered average for today's student. The consensus among college health professionals is that college life today presents many more competing demands for students' time, energy, and attention. Consequently, it becomes more difficult for students to balance academic, financial, and social requirements and opportunities.

It is normal to feel some level of stress or anxiety concerning an upcoming exam, paper, or presentation. Feeling anxious before a test is extremely common among students, but most students can reduce anxiety levels through preparation, getting exercise, eating and sleeping regularly; taking breaks from studying, or by doing various relaxation techniques (e.g. deep breathing, yoga, meditation, progressive muscle relaxation, etc.). In these cases anxiety is usually a useful emotion that helps people focus on the task at hand. However, some individuals may experience more severe levels of anxiety and even fear, despite their efforts to reduce their stress.

Greek
continued from page 2

During this week, most chapters will have open invitations for lunch and dinner. Food on the quad is generally very good; so take advantage of this offer if you are already tired of cafeteria food, just make sure to listen to the rumors that you may enjoy your friends are coming.

"I hope that those who came to the Kick-Off will be taking part in the many events different houses will be having this week. On Tuesday night, there are open houses planned for all the Greek chapters where anyone interested in becoming a brother or sister will be able to stop by and meet the members of the house," Joseph added.

Although Rush is an important and busy time for all the Greeks, some members in attendance still find time to enjoy the event. "It was so much fun! It was the first time all of the Greeks came together after the long winter break, and it was so good to see everything again! There was definitely a spirit of community—we all just had fun together!" Shannon Phillips, a member of Kappa Phi Delta commented. Even with the competitive spirit and pride in their chapters, all of the chapters join together in these friendly games while entertainment guests.

The focus of last Thursday's event was to further illustrate how diverse and active our Greek organizations are on this campus. Many spring semester organization and members of various organizations are Greek and proud to be so. Greek events will be having many more events like this throughout the semester," Joseph said. Other events included Greek Formal, Greek Stock, an all day event featuring musical acts from local bands and artists, and Greek Week, a week filled with TD fun, competitive events like bat spin, eating and scavenger hunt contests, InterGreek Intramural Sports such as Basketball, Soccer, and Ultimate Frisbee will also start in a few weeks. Anyone interested in any of these events are encouraged to visit the individual house or Greek Council website at www.hitt.edu/greek.
News

II Tech students invade New Orleans

Veronica Rangel
TechNews Writer

From January 8 through the 12th members of II'Ts Society of Professional Engineers climbed board the USS Hornet to attend the 25th annual National Technical Career Conference in New Orleans. The conference is the SHPE biggest event. What began with only 100 people at the first conference has now exploded into a driving force in the Engineering world.

This year the conference attracted more than 1,000 people, two-thirds of whom were from II'T. Although some people did fly down, a majority of the students that attended were from II'T. One of the drivers commented, "It took a lot of good music to get us down there, but it was the great conversation that made the trip back go so fast." The conference consisted of workshops, two career fairs, and the National Academic Olympiad, which was won by the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Although II'T did not compete this time around, they were just as proud to see their Region II students do well. "In spite of not competing," Alani, a team member from II'T explained, "Even though we didn't get to compete this time, I was glad we got to send our team to our state. We were all pretty proud." Jesus was on the team that placed third to U of I at the Midwest SHPE Conference in November.

Friday was the day for workshops. Most of them were geared towards new innovations and advances in the different areas of engineering; however, one of the best workshops, which has been repeated at several conferences, is titled "Te Conocer Bucal" and deals with the misconceptions that Latinos have about the corporate world and how to overcome them. The Career Fair was an important part of the weekend. Several II'T students were able to interview with some of the large corporate sponsors such as Dell Computer, Hamilton Sundstrand, and Chevron and General Motors. Many will be hearing back soon about the jobs.

The flight night included a welcome reception and, true to New Orleans fashion, a Masquerade Ball for which all participants received a mask at check in. After that it was off to the French Quarter to take in the sites, sounds and flavors of New Orleans. Sophomore Janet Martinez tried calamari for the first time at a French Brewery that makes it on site. "I didn't think I would like it, but it was so fresh." A fun time was obviously had as many people came home with beads, although those people aren't talking.

Another important part of the Conference is the nominations for the Regional and National Student Representatives. II'T's own Henry Martinez was nominated for this position in Region V. Elections will take place in April. Good luck Henry! "One of the reasons I want to be the Student Representative is because Region V is hosting the first ever Regional Retreat to be held there in Chicago in May. Executive board members from chapters in all nine states will come to Chicago to learn from each other and discuss future networking opportunities," Regions VI encompasses SHPE chapters from MI, IN, IL, OH, KY, NC, MO, and IA. For more information on how to join SHPE at IIT, contact LIFE, Latinos Involved in Further Education, at ILE@IIT.edu

U-Pass Frequently Asked Questions

Student Affairs Submission

Although we have all been receiving U-Pass for several semesters, some students are still confused about its policy and procedures. If you are new to II'T or have questions about the university policy, Stacy Newton from the Office of Student Affairs has compiled the Frequently Asked Questions to help answer your queries.

What is the U-PASS?

The CTA U-Pass is a transit pass that students can use for unlimited rides on CTA trains or buses, and certain rail lines during the regular semester hours, seven days per week. The U-Pass is also valid for CTA ParaTransit service through RTA, U-Pass reimbursement is only for the CTA portion of your fare. Cash for all CTA fares - no cash is needed and it does not require a transfer or change. The U-Pass is not valid for travel on Pace and suburban buses or Metra commuter trains. The U-Pass is valid January 21, 2003 through May 18, 2003. For CTA maps and schedules, visit the CTA website at http://www.chicagotransit.com.

How will I get charged?

All full-time undergraduate students registered for 12 or more credit hours and more than 9 full-time Graduate students registered for 9 academic course credit hours or more on the New Campus will automatically have the $68.00 U-Pass fee billed to their account. If you do not want to pay this fee even if you decide not to pick up your U-Pass. The Main Campus includes the Rice Campus and the Morganfield Campus as well as II'T students. Part-time students and Coop Students who are not registered for full-time academic course credits are not eligible for the U-Pass and may not participate in the CTA U-Pass program. If you are a student at Center for Law and Financial Markets, Chicago-Kent College of Law, Institute of Design, National Center for Food Safety & Technology, Steward School of Business, or Vandercook College of Music, you are not considered a Main Campus student and are therefore not eligible for the U-Pass. Students at the Main Campus may not participate in the Main Campus program.

Please Note:

Any student who picks up the pass with full-time status and then drops down to part-time status will be charged a $30.00 processing fee and CTA will have the CTA U-Pass Fee and CTA will be responsible for activating the pass. If you lose your U-Pass, only the CTA U-Pass Fee will be charged. Any student who takes all of their classes at the Rice Campus or through Distance Learning with II'T Online or iTV AND does not live on the Rice Campus, the student may request to have the fee waived. No requests will be accepted after January 21, 2003. If you request to have the fee waived, the fee will be charged. Only one replacement pass will be issued per academic year. CTA will process the pass within 5 business days and send to the Office of Student Affairs on the Main Campus Room 122 Wishnick Hall, where you must come to pick up the Replacement Pass.

NOTE: CTA will "void" your lost/stolen U-Pass (via the data on the encoded magnetic stripe). Since the CTA fare equipment reads the U-Pass encoding, once your old U-Pass has been voided, it is useless. The $33 is an administrative fee to CTA to cover costs of verifying your eligibility, issuing your old card, making the new card and updating their database with your new data; since these are real costs to them, the $33 is non-refundable. What if my U-PASS becomes damaged so I can no longer use it?

If a U-Pass is damaged so that a student cannot pass it, the student must visit the CTA Headquarters at the Merchandise Mart (7th floor, 350 N. Wells) and apply for a replacement pass between the hours of 8am-4pm, Monday-Friday. The student must bring their damaged U-Pass and valid Student ID. CTA will issue a new Transit Card valued at $10.00. No fee will be charged. CTA will process the pass within 5 business days and will send the replacement pass to the Office of Student Affairs on the Main Campus Room 122 Wishnick Hall, where you must come to pick up the Replacement Pass.

Who can I call with questions or comments?

If you have questions or comments concerning your U-Pass, call the U-Pass Hotline at 312-664-7200, 8am-4pm, Monday-Friday. At any other time, please leave a voicemail message. You may also send an e-mail to newpass@IIT.edu.
Artists and Entertainment

TechNews Music Review: Riviera

Stephanie Fillman
TechNews Writer

Riviera is a Chicago band that for the past year or so has steadily gained show dates and fans, doubtlessly due to their talent for effortlessly incorporating audio multiplicity while maintaining a unified sound. The result of this is simply terrific music from band members Joshua Rogers (drums), Derek Phillips (guitar/vox), Mick Radichel (guitar/vox), Matt Usser (bass) and Dan Schiller (keys).

To accurately describe Riviera's sound, I must also risk labelling them - and they definitely don't deserve any one label. The Alt Country musical genre is formally defined as: "Country music that is made and exists outside of Country's mainstream. It is not made or distributed by the Nashville industry and it does not get airplay on commercial Country radio." For the most part, Alt Country is closer to its traditional roots than is mainstream Country music.

This description has been applied to artists ranging from Wilco (who have tried to go with the classification) to K.D. Lang, Ryan Adams, and Aimee Mann. But it is strictly the latter part of the Alt Country definition, on closeeness to traditional roots, that gives Riviera its shine.

The beauty that we expect - or at least hope for - from music often emerges only when an artist or band knows a medium, or a kind of structure or vocabulary, inside out. Each member of Riviera knows his instrument and its roots in America. Hardwood Floors is an air of American Folk Art to what Riviera does; there is no room for the superfluos, the nonfunctional, and there is a sense of community in the way the band members play together, a sense of shared experience and purpose.

These are band members who know how to play their instruments, who refine their talents, whose songs get increasingly better as they play together as an entity, who - through craftsmanship - develop a seamless, synchonized stage presence that makes their overall musical sound much more powerful than the sum of its parts. It is Derek Phillips who is largely responsible for the band's lyrics, which are thoughtful and hint at loss or mourning - but always without seeming morose or if they come from someone striving to be America's most tortured poet. The lyrics are, structurally, not composed as ballads but - in Riviera's acoustic songs especially - they do begin to sound like songs to sing with old friends in a dusty old Midwestern bar.

Charming as the idea of early American music may be, specialization in art, like specialization in every area of life, can have its dangers. An art form can become too limited, too sectarian, and be left without much inspiration for growth. And now, after the explosion of techno and electronica - and ripping, mixing and burning as the expressive thing - the idea that one "pure" musical genre is ideal does not necessarily sit well with audiences that expect newness and an intense and varied musical experience.

No worries: Riviera has newness and variety covered. Their instrumental talent is mixed with a veritable quilt comprised of dissonant sounds, of pleasantly harmonious noise with elements you can't put your finger on because they are so artfully spliced together by Dan Schiller. Sometimes you might hear strains of electronica, or odd sorts of chimes, or think you're picking up barely audible radio messages and transmission sounds - scraps found in the sale bins of the general store and pieced together beautifully.

Over and between this weave of blissful sounds are clean drumbeats that act as a song's backbone in the parts. It is Derek Phillips who is largely responsible for the song's lyrics, which are thoughtful and hint at loss or mourning - but always without seeming morose or if they come from someone striving to be America's most tortured poet. The lyrics are, structurally, not composed as ballads but - in Riviera's acoustic songs especially - they do begin to sound like songs to sing with old friends in a dusty old Midwestern bar.

It is this unity that makes watching Riviera on stage such a pleasant experience. The show, like the music, is seamless; one good song is followed by another.

So I recommend you give Riviera a listen. Hear the reminiscent stories of California and warm breezes, the quietly critical tales of churches, of Congress and of open land and girls. Riviera will graciously take you on a road trip across America and drop you at the end, at the ocean, left only with what feels and looks and sounds like... a Riviera.

You can find Riviera (an an acoustic mp of their song "Friends in California") online at www.riviera-sound.com and in person at the following: February 3 at the Wise Fools Pub with the Demillos March 7 at The Beat Kitchen with Volta Sound and Turner Joy Check www.emerim.com for details on venues, maps, and CTA travel recommendations.

CLASSIFIEDS

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SPECIAL

STUDENT

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Affirmative Action vs. Caucasian Campuses

Robin Chauvariya
Techvies Writer

Imagine walking into your after
noon sociology class only to dis
cover that your best friend, a
Native American from Arizona
discovered, as have the three Af
can-American girls who never
quit arguing about socioeconomic
class and skin color. You were
planning to ask out is gone. You
quickly realize that all five of
them are attractive, the faces,
adding to the monotony of the
other thirty white faces filling
the classroom seats. The thought
of America’s universities being com-
pletely Caucasian is an incredibly
frightening one, but it is also a
good opportunity.

President Bush’s lawyers re-
cently filed briefs with the Supreme
Court, claiming that the University
of Michigan’s admission policy is
unconstitutional. The admissions
process, which automatically
gives twenty points (on a 150 point
scale) to African-American, Ameri-
can-Indian, and Hispanic/Latino
applicants, was originally insti-
tuted under fire when two students
claimed the school had rejected
them while two less-qualified
minority students were accepted.
Arguing that stu-
dents should be admitted because
of academic ability only, Bush some-
how managed to avoid communi-
ting the fact that this system also
rewards impoverished students of
all ages, along with applicants
who are the children of alumni,
which has been a recurring theme
in most of Bush’s educational en-
dorsements.

In the middle of his high school
career, it was decided that young
George W. Bush would follow in his
father’s footsteps and finish his
high school education at Phillips
Academy in Andover, MA. Andover
has an admissions system similar
to that of the University of
Michigan’s: an applicant is given a
certainty rate based on a point
score for SAT scores, grades,
and other factors. Despite the fact
that he had been rejected at a presti-
gious private school in Houston,
Bush was admitted to Andover.
Not only did he receive extra
points for being a Texan, but he
received three extra points for
being the son of a millionaire,
a higher percentage than the University
of Michigan grants to minority appli-
cants.

Despite Bush’s claims that the
school’s point system is actually a
quota-filling system, the Uni-
versity of Michigan has taken
careful measures to ensure that their
admission policy integrates Regents of
the University of California vs.
Bakke of 1978, in which Justice
Powell Jr. forbade the use of
quotas as an admission technique,
but allowed to use of a race as an
admission factor. Although Bush
declared that his briefs do not in-
clude the Bakke case, his actions
are the equivalent of banning abortion
before the courts overturn Roe vs.
Wade.

When asked how he planned to
ensure that the college admissions
game was played fairly, Bush men-
tioned a plan that he devised while
serving as governor of Texas: all
debts graduating in the top ten
percent of their high school auto-
matically receive admission to state
schools. Florida and California
have similar programs, where the
Florida colleges admit seniors
graduating in the top twenty
percent of their class, and California
schools admit only the top four
percent.

Despite the fact that I started
taking high school classes in sixth
grade and graduated high school a
year early (my GPA was 4.92),
I never got a perfect score on a
English, Honors Geography, or Advanced Cal-
culus. Although Bush’s plan satis-
fies both sides of the political spec-
dents on a race-blind basis, the per-
centage of African-American stu-
dents in college would drop below
two percent per school, and the
number of Hispanics would drop
below five percent. These estimates
become obvious after the use of race

High anxiety is not a normal part of
the college experience. Be-
cause anxiety can be hard to differ-
cent from normal stress, it is
pressing that accompany college, it is im-
potent to recognize the warning
signs. These include fatigue,
migraines, diarrhea, irritability,
difficulty sleeping, indecisiveness,
trembling, elevated heart rate,
and avoidance. Under conditions
of high stress and anxiety students
are more likely to suffer from panic
attacks and depression, abuse alco-
hol and other drugs in effort to
cope; skip classes and engage in self-
defeating procrastination; become
chronically sleep deprived; with-
draw from friends, others and com-
pletely lose rhythms at a time when
they need support the most.

Tests, special projects, disas-
trous events that result in fear,
panic or paralyzation are not a part of
the normal college experience.
Individuals who have persistent
and overwhelming anxiety may be
suffering from an anxiety disorder.
According to a 1999 study con-
ducted at Harvard University, 19
million Americans suffer from some
form of anxiety disorder. In 2000,
almost 7% of college students re-
ported experiencing anxiety disor-
ders within the previous year.

A national study of the National
Institute of Mental Health, anxiety
disorder called Generalized Anxiety Dis-
order (GAD), affects about 4 million
Americans aged 18-54 during the
course of a given year. GAD is char-
acterized by 6 months or more of
chronic, exaggerated worry or ten-
sion that is unfounded or much
more severe than the normal anxi-
ety most people experience.

People who suffer from anxiety
orders, which can be debilitating
and demoralizing for them, can
find help. If you think you may be
suffering from an anxiety disorder


talk to a counselor, trusted profes-
sor, resident assistant, or clergy.
You can call the Counseling Center
at 312-858-7132 or stop by Par-
Hall for more information or an in-
dividual appointment. We are open
Mondays 11-7 and Tuesday-Friday
9-5. Our services are free and con-
fidential.

The Counseling Center will be
providing information regarding
anxiety, stress and sadness in the
HUB on Thursday, January 30th
from 11:00-3:00. We will also pro-
vide a free confidential
screening and counselors will be available
to discuss the results. This event
is open to the entire IIT community.
Features
Race Still at Center of Admissions Debates

Richard Duncan
TechNews Writer

Almost fifty years after the civil rights movement of the 1960s, the issue of race continues to be a focal point in the admissions process at universities across the country. The past few years have seen a series of high-profile cases involving affirmative action, which has sparked debates about the role of race in college admissions.

In 2015, the Supreme Court ruled in Fisher v. University of Texas that universities could continue to consider race as a factor in their admissions decisions, but only if they could demonstrate a compelling interest in diversity.

The Illinois Institute of Technology, located in Chicago, is one such university. The institution has a diverse student body, with a significant proportion of students from underrepresented backgrounds. However, recent changes to the admissions process have prompted questions about the role of race in the selection process.

Activities
continued from page 1

City Improves Safety Along State Street

Phil Rosen
Submission

Good news if you regularly walk across State Street at both 32nd and 34th Streets. At the request of IIT, the City has installed flashing yellow lights at both crosswalks, providing additional protection for students and staff. The installation of these lights was prompted by incidents at both these intersections.
No Rest for the Weary Swimmers

Brianna Swenson
Sports Writer

O
ver winter break, while the rest of IIT students were sleeping in and relaxing away the stress of not having any classes for five weeks, the IIT swim team was already back on campus and in full-training mode. For the three weeks before classes began, the swim team had been working like nuts, training for five hours a day, six days a week, trying to whip themselves into better shape in preparation for the end of the season.

The first week of winter break practice started on Monday, December 5th with the normal fanfare of swimmers stumbling onto the pool deck, half-asleep at 7:00 am. Two hours of swimming, an hour-break to rest up and eat, and then two more hours of swimming is what followed the first day. For the first week, practice days alternated between swimming for two hours, resting, then swimming for another two hours, and swimming for three hours followed by an hour of dryland training. The entire first week, the swimmers averaged over 13,000 yards per day (17,500 yards is equivalent to 6.25 miles).

The second week of practice brought a trip down to Florida for Coach Bond and the majority of the swimmers. The team stayed in a hotel right on the Gulf of Mexico in St. Petersburg and swam at the North Shore Pool, an outdoor heated-pool facility also right on the Gulf of Mexico. Every morning the team would wake at 7:15 am and drive out to the pool to watch the sun rise over the ocean.

Before practice started. Mornings were long course practices from 8:00 - 10:00 am, where the swimmers would swim the length of the pool, which was 50 meters (more than twice the length of the IIT pool, over half the length of a football field), and afternoons were short course practices from 2:00 - 4:00 pm, swimming the width of the pool, which was 25 yards across.

The trip to Florida was a lot of fun for the whole team. There were exciting moments, such as the morning when the team was out doing dryland training and saw a dead body floating in the ocean, and less than exciting moments, such as the last morning when the team did wheelbarrow-pyramid-pushups up softball bleachers (which are a lot harder than they sound). Besides swimming and dryland training, the swimmers were also able to explore parts of the Tampa - St. Petersburg area. One such outing included the swimmers soundly beating Coach Bond at mini-golf. Another featured the team bonding and grilling dinner, watching the sunset over the ocean.

For the third week of training, the team returned, tired but tan, back to the frigid and windy city. They practiced for three weeks straight before their first meet of the new season at home versus Tri-State University. Even after three weeks of intense training, the team swam extremely well, easily winning 15 of 20 events. Some of the more exciting moments of the meet were the women's 200 yard Medley Relay out-touching Tri-State by nine-tenths of a second, Chris Edwards almost breaking the school record in the 1,000 yard Freestyle and承包 the 1100 yard Backstroke. The final score of the meet was no surprise, the men's team pulled out another win, beating Tri-State 94 to 79, and the women's team chalked up their second win of the season, trouncing Tri-State 84 to 55.

Illinois Tech has three meets left before the NAIA National meet in March. The last home meet will be on Tuesday, February 4th versus the College of DuPage, starting at 2:00 pm. The final home meets are at Lake Forest College on Saturday, February 8th, starting at 11:00 am; and at Carthage University in Wisconsin on March 1st. The Men's 6 meet, taking place Friday and Saturday, February 21st and 22nd.

For more information about these meets, or about the swim team in general, log on to www.iit.edu/ Athletics and follow the links to the swimming sections, or check out the swim team's personal website at itletswimming.tumblr.com.

Limping Into the New Year

Abigail Ash
Sports Writer

The New Year has found the II
T"oish Tech women's basketball team all too familiar with injuries. The Hawks have played six games in the two weeks before the start of the new semester, with a game every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, and this rigorous schedule has taken its toll on the players. Six of nine are now nursing ankle, knee, and shin pain, but the women are hanging in there, taking all their blows and using gallons of ice.

Unfortunately, the Hawks are now 0-15 with a difficult conference schedule ahead of them. The assistant coaches, Julie Kafka and Corinne Pahr, both ex-players themselves, are doing their best to make the season bearable for the Hawks by giving advice and encouragement whenever possible. The Hawks look forward to future non-conference games against Robert Morris, Moody Bible, and Judson College for their possible first wins this season. The Illinois Tech women also eagerly anticipated the return of Seye Adekeye, a junior from Lagos, Nigeria who was ineligible all of fall semester due to her Co-op position.

Seya's speed and defensive skills will hopefully inspire and motivate the Hawks to their first win. Seye played her first minutes in the game at home on Tuesday, January 21 against Judson College and recovered a steal. The whole team is looking forward to great things from Seye. Sarah Ocwirja hustled on defense as well against Judson and added five steals to help the team, along with two assists and a rebound. Abigail Ash was the leading scorer for the Hawks with 15 points, six assists, and three rebounds. Andrina Joseph played hard and added 10 points and four rebounds, and blocked one shot by the Judson women. Kendra Hedin and Maria Bastrzyk each added three points to the board and helped the Hawks by pulling down twelve rebounds between them. Hardin with eight and Bastrzyk with four. All the Hawks played hard on defense, and Ash and Hardin each ended the game with two steals, while Chelsea Boldra and Maria Bastrzyk each added one. The Illinois Tech women need to work on their rebounding as our Hawks were out-rebounded 37 to 25 by the Judson Lady Eagles. The height of the Judson women proved to be their advantage, as their field goal shooting percentage was 52.5%, indicating that most of their shots came from inside the lane. Nikki Schnitt, Alicia Groenendal, and Ashley Dinnes were the leading scorers from Judson, with sixteen, fourteen, and thirteen points. Elizabeth Olenchock, a six-foot, two-inch sophomore, scored a double double, scoring twelve points and pulling down fourteen rebounds for the Lady Eagles. The Illinois Tech women play Saturday, January 25, at 1:00 pm at Indiana University South Bend. The next home game is against Robert Morris College on Tuesday January 28 at 7:00 pm. The Hawks look forward to a possible win against Robert Morris, so come support your team.