Food Poisoning Doubles UT Over

Richard Duncan
TechNews Writer

What began as a typical Thursday evening in the McCormick Student Village turned into a very restless and painful night for many residents as a number of students reported exhibiting some or all of the symptoms across campus. Initially thought to be a case of mass food poisoning, by mid-Friday officials on-campus and medical professionals from Mercy Hospital were stating that, again, though no official determination had been made, the most likely source of the outbreak was a viral infection, a common occurrence among communities like elementary and secondary schools and college dormitories. It would be folly to note, however, that since we have a very unique facility housing all of our dormitories in one, a single building with one main cafeteria, any outbreak could have affected only one hall or floor at other schools could have and apparently spread much faster and wider in the MSW.

As student requested expressed in either their resident advisor's room or the health center, the various departments of the Student Affairs department quickly swung into action. Residence Life and the resident advisors worked early Saturday to determine which

Tragedy from Above

Richard Duncan
TechNews Writer

The morning of Saturday, February 1, 2003, started off at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, just like every other morning scheduled for an orbiter landing. The weather was perfect, and the mission, one of scientific research conducted over the past sixteen days, had gone without a hitch. All appeared to be routine and normal, and STS-107 was about to end like the 111 successful space shuttle missions since 1981.

That sense of normalcy was quickly lost at around 9:08 CST, when mission control in Florida lost contact with orbiter Columbia, a mere sixteen minutes before her scheduled landing at KSC. When Columbia did not make her landing time, a contingency plan was put into motion to try and determine her flight path and where she could be located. However, as擾ern across the northern and eastern parts of the state began pouring in reports of a loud, large fireball and the Edwards debris in its aftermath, it became clear that Columbia would not be landing.

STS-107, the NASA designation for this mission, was the 28th and final flight in the life of the orbiter Columbia, designated OV-102 (Enterprise) is OV-101), and the 113th in the history of the Space Shuttle program. The oldest of NASA's orbiters, Columbia made the Space Shuttle's maiden voyage in 1981. Regarded by many as the pinnacle of human technological advancement, the Space Shuttle has been a mainstay of American and international space operations some 22 years, and is currently being planned to operate well beyond its original design life. With the very notable exception of the destruction of STS-51L, with orbiter Challenger, the Space Shuttle program holds a near perfect safety record, having logged hours and hours of space-flight and, up until Saturday, only 7 casualties, the six astronauts and one civilian aboard Challenger on January 28, 1986. Ironically, the crewmembers aboard Columbia, in a phone call to the Expedition Seven crew aboard the International Space Station, remembered the Challenger tragedy while in space on Tuesday.

Beyond its now-permanent stand in history as the second orbiter destroyed and the first on re-entry, STS-107 held many other historical achievements of interest to many around the world. Tamar, the 48-year old colonel in the Israeli Air Force, was the first Israeli in space. Kalpana Chawla immigrated to the United States in the several years before her...
Letters to the Editor

Act as a brainstorming team, aimed at fabricating new ideas for policies and procedures in order to ensure that SLC continues to function in the interests of the student body.

When looking at it in the grand scheme of things, much of the IIT experience is due to the efforts of SLC. SLC bases its efforts on enhancing the college experience and giving students the opportunity to voice their opinions openly. As chair of the Future Policy Committee, I intend to take a look into many issues, including new ways to empower students and involve student organizations. I would also like to take a look into expanding the role of graduate students within SLC. I hope to take my position in SLC along with the help of the student body, and use it as an opportunity to guide IIT in the right direction.

Through the help of my fellow students I intend on promoting change within our student government.

For those who are interested in the Future Policy Committee, you are welcome to attend our meetings which are held every Wednesday at 6:30 P.M. in the Student Organization Center (SOC) located in the HUB. Any question may also be directed to me via e-mail at lambert@iit.edu.


technews

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Announcements

The Announcements and News Briefs contains all items that TechNews finds cannot be turned into complete articles, and any announcements that anyone may have. To place anything into this portion of the newspaper, e-mail the News Editor at technews@iit.edu. While every effort will be made to include every submission, not everyone can always be accommodated.

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Submission

TechNews is published on the Monday of each week of the academic year. Deadline for all submissions, announcements, and ads is 4:30 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to publication. Articles must be submitted electronically in ASCII (text) or Microsoft Word format. Unless otherwise stated, all submissions must be emailed to technews@iit.edu.

Location

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Entrepeneurs Showcased in DC

Mindy Sherman
Submission

Fully representing both the undergraduate and graduate schools at the Illinois Institute of Technology, eight students from the College of Computing and Business at IIT's main campus attended the College Entrepreneur Organization (CEO) annual conference held in Washington, D.C. Along with taking advantage of the sessions and speakers, students had enough time to see its own work showcased.

Presenting student-written software which will be implemented into an IPRO and enPRO for the Spring 2003 semester, David Pistriu and students from the Stuart School of Business spoke about their mobile phone system which has been adopted by IIT. The students are creating software that allows users in creating business plans.

Along with projects, IIT is also fortunate to see the spirit of entrepreneurship in many aspects of its institution. One way in which students are being encouraged to get involved with entrepreneurship is through the Ed Kaplan Entrepreneur Fellowship Program. Students, who accepted, take part in a two-year education path in addition to their normal coursework. All engineering, science, and communication majors are represented under this unique program which has only begun it's first year in 2002. In addition to taking an extra course each semester, each student looks forward to a summer internship as well as a trip to Silicon Valley to experience entrepreneurship firsthand.

While the Ed Kaplan Fellowship might be a great start, entrepreneurship sure doesn't end quite there for IIT. With a strong CEO chapter at the Stuart School of Business, both undergraduate and graduate students alike are anticipating the beginning of a CEO chapter on IIT's main campus with hopes of inevitably linking the two together. Further information will be available as the club begins to take off.

This is a very exciting time for all of us at IIT, we are looking forward to seeing everyone next year as CEO hosts its annual conference once again in the Windy City!
Black History Month: A Celebration

NSBE hosts events commemorating Black History Month

Farai Mauzhaza
TechNews Writer

Black History Month 2003: Journey From The Past February in Black History Month. This annual celebration has been a part of the lives of Americans since 1926 when it was called "Negro History Week". Things have changed significantly since those days when black history was not even studied let alone documented. Blacks have been a part of American history since colonial times and it was not until the 20th century when their history and rich heritage was acknowledged.

The celebration of Black History Month was started by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, PhD. Son of former slaves and a Harvard graduate, he was discourse to find out that, during the course of his studies, that history books largely ignored the black population. He decided to begin writing the history of African Americans for inclusion in the nation’s history. He launched Negro History Week as an initiative to focus attention to the contributions of black people through American history. The month of February was selected for the celebrations as it marks the birthdays of two men who made a great impact on the lives of black Americans, Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass.

The Illinois Tech chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers has partnered with the Center for Multicultural Programs and planned a host of events to highlight the achievements and culture of black people living in America. The opening ceremony will take place on Monday, February 3rd, 2003 at 12 noon, in Herman Union Building. The theme for this year is "Journey from the Past", which calls for reflection on the rich heritage of the African culture and its place in the lives of African Americans and highlights the achievements, progress and contributions made in education, sports, entertainment and every other facet of life in America.

Dr. Carter G. Woodson

Black History Month Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Feb. 3</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony</td>
<td>HUB Alumni Lounge</td>
<td>12pm-1pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Join NSBE-ITF as we usher in the celebration of Black History Month...</td>
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<td>9am-5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 5</td>
<td>Pre-College Initiative Shadow Day</td>
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<td>Members of NSBE-ITF assisted by university staff will expose local middle and high school students to the IT perspective. Chief among the planned activities will be their opportunity for an &quot;Engineering Experience&quot; during their visit. The event will also include mock college classes.</td>
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<td>Movie Night: McCormick Lounge</td>
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<td>MSV</td>
<td>8pm</td>
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<td>The movie Rosewood will be discussed based on its relevance to the black experience and the underlying messages for IIT students.</td>
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<td>Mon-Fri, Feb. 10-14</td>
<td>Soul Food Week</td>
<td>Wishnick Hall</td>
<td>12p-150PM</td>
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<td><em>All Food Provided by Lenore's Kitchen. Lunches are sold at $5 per plate.</em></td>
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<td>Mon - Smothered Pork Chops, Cornbread Dressing, Sweet Potatoes, Corn Cakes, Green Beans, Banana Pudding</td>
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<td>Tues - Fried Chicken Wings, Red Beans &amp; Rice, Cabbage, Corn Muffins, Peach Cobbler</td>
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<td>Wed - Black-eyed Peas, Rice, Jambalaya, Corn Bread, Sweet Potato Pie</td>
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<td>Thurs - Collard Greens, Baked Chicken, Macaroni &amp; Cheese, Cornbread, Pineapple Upside Down Cake</td>
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<td>Fri - Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Fried Green Tomatoes, Dinner Rolls, Bread Pudding</td>
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<td>Mon-Fri, Feb. 10-14</td>
<td>Black Faculty Technology Awareness Week</td>
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<td>Sat, Feb. 15</td>
<td>Technical Outreach for Community Help (TOCH)</td>
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<td>The Saturday NSBE-TORCH program held in the Stuart Building provides a fun and exciting learning environment for local middle school students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Feb. 11</td>
<td>Discussion/Black Recruitment &amp; Retention Cohen Lounge (MSV)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IIT Alumni will lead an open discussion that focuses on the needs of current black and prospective students in recruitment and retention.</td>
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<td>Tuesday, Feb. 18</td>
<td>Black Men on Campus, A Discussion</td>
<td>Cohen Lounge (MSV)</td>
<td>8:30pm</td>
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<td>Alumnus, David Blake, along with other alumni, will lead a discussion focused on the role and potential of black males at IIT.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 19</td>
<td>Movie Night</td>
<td>McCormick Lounge –MSV</td>
<td>9pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Movie will be discussed based on its relevance to the black experience and for the underlying messages for IIT students.</td>
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<td>Thurs-Fri, Feb. 20-22</td>
<td>IIT Salute to Minority Scholars Weekend</td>
<td>Various Times</td>
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<td>Accepted minority students from all over Illinois will come to experience IIT along with current minority students from NSBE and LEPE. The students will shadow other students as well as mingle with IIT alumni and enjoy other events co-sponsored by the Undergraduate Office of Admission and the Center for Multicultural Programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb. 20</td>
<td>DJ Party</td>
<td>HUB Ballroom</td>
<td>9pm-12am</td>
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<td>Come join NSBE &amp; LEPE for a battle of the DJs. Free Admission for all IIT students and Scholars and $5 admission for non-IIT students.</td>
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<td>Friday, Feb. 21</td>
<td>Alumni-Student Mixer</td>
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<td>5pm-9pm</td>
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<td>Scholars will enjoy a dinner with alumni and current and recent students and discuss the life of an engineer during and after college.</td>
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<td>Friday, Feb. 21</td>
<td>Gospel Explosion</td>
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<td>9pm-10pm</td>
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<td>A celebration of the &quot;Oleo Negro spiritual&quot; with local high schools and IIT students.</td>
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<td>Tuesday, Feb. 25</td>
<td>Black History Quiz Bowl</td>
<td>MSV Cafeteria</td>
<td>9:15-10:30pm</td>
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<td>Jeopardy style Black History trivia with prizes for the top teams.</td>
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<td>Wednesday, Feb. 26</td>
<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
<td>Herman Union Building</td>
<td>12pm-1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>A synopsis and reflection on all of the events of the month.</td>
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President Bush Outlines Coming Year

Richard Duncan
TechNews Writer

The liberty we prize is not America's gift to the world; it is God's gift to humanity. Those were the words of President George W. Bush last Tuesday night as he outlined his plans for the coming year and second-half of his first term in office. With the whole world watching for words of war and Americans hoping for an end to the now three-year economic slide, a number of domestic and foreign issues highlighted the President's annual report to Congress.

While the dominant news story of the past year has been the mounting international pressure and American and British military buildup, in the U.S. the issue most on the minds of everyday Americans according to most polls was the economic troubles that have hit the United States following the "tech-bubble burst" of the late 1990s and uncovering of mass corporate misrepresentation earlier last year. According to NBC News, the U.S. economy lost 181,000 jobs over the past year, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average, a key indicator of the strength and prosperity of the largest of American corporations, is down close to 2000 points from its high late last century. To counteract this, Bush proposed an economic stimulus package to keep the economy growing. His proposal suggested that rather than cutting taxes, Congress should raise taxes. This proposal, however, was met with mixed reaction on both sides of the aisle.

Another issue on the table was the "two-track" tax plan on capital gains and dividends. Some said the plan was effective and helped keep the economy growing. Others said it was unfair and that the federal government should have been focused on cutting taxes. In the end, the tax cuts were not implemented immediately, and many people remained skeptical of the government's ability to handle the economy.

Moving away from these two issues, Bush also addressed the "two-track" tax plan on capital gains and dividends. He proposed a federal tax to be imposed on capital gains and dividends. This plan was met with mixed reaction as some argued that it would help to stimulate the economy, while others argued that it would hurt the economy.

Another issue was the "two-track" tax plan on capital gains and dividends. This plan was met with mixed reaction as some argued that it would help to stimulate the economy, while others argued that it would hurt the economy.

No other issue though was more important than the President's comments on Iraq and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Wait-

ing until the final twenty minutes of his speech to mention Iraq, Bush continued the rhetoric that has dominated White House press briefings for the past six months. He said that the world could not wait, and the United States would not sit, for Hussein to step down or disarm, and listed a number of Hussein's U.N. Security Council resolutions and human rights violations. No new bits of information were shared, however; Secretary of State Colin Powell will deliver the next revelation of some top secret U.S. intelligence on February 5 when he addresses the Security Council in New York.

Altogether, the next two years will most likely be dominated by military action, the continuing war on terrorism, as outlined by Bush's second State of the Union address. But economic troubles, health care shortfalls, and a lack of worldwide support for war could turn the last two years of President Bush's term into his last two years as President.

Announcements continued from page 2

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Features

Staff Profile: Dean of Students Doug Geiger

Thomas D'Silva
TechNews Writer

Doug Geiger is the new Dean of Students. He received his B.A. in Mass Communication and French from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and his M.A. in Higher Education and Administration from Saint Mary's University. Geiger's home town is Manitowoc - Two Rivers, Wisconsin. He enjoys watching movies and follows current international events closely. He also has two rotweilers.

"When I was an undergraduate, I studied in Normandy, France for a semester. After I returned to the US for my last semester, I was trying to decide what I wanted to do after college. I decided that I did not want to work in Mass Communication and even though I was interested in French, I did not want to be a French teacher or translator. At college, I was involved in student government. I was a student leader and I was very interested in student affairs. So, when I joined Michigan State," said Geiger, "I realized that I may want to become an administrator."

After graduating, he worked at Ohio State University for four years and then joined IIT in July, 1983 as Director of Residence Life. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Higher Education and Administration at Loyola University. "After graduate school I planned to work for ten years and then get my Ph.D., which would be my terminal degree. I am taking three credits a semester so it'll be some time before I get my degree," remarked Geiger.

"I love my new job as Dean of Students. I am very passionate about what I do, it's a great experience," commented Geiger on his new position. "I meet with the directors of Resident Life, Greek Life and Student Activities once a week, because these departments are fundamentally important to student life. I meet with the directors of the Counseling Center, Health Center and Campus Ministry regularly."

"remarked Geiger on the new Department that now report to him. "My goal continues to be that the Office of Student Affairs be housed in the new campus center," replied Geiger when asked if Student Affairs would be moving to the new campus center.

When asked to comment on proposed changes in the Orientation Program, he said, "I hope to change the orientation schedule so that it begins on Sunday and classes start on Thursday. This would allow us to give students a break of two days in October. I believe two days is too long and there is too much lag time between a freshman's arrival on campus and when classes start."

This has to be approved by a faculty committee before it can be implemented. "I have talked to the students about this, some of them agree and others have concerns," remarked Geiger. "I asked if the change could be bullets before the proposal was made. Commenting on his future plans for the campus he said, "We are looking at financial models that will help in rebuilding the quad."

"I believe that Student Affairs should be an advocate for student issues and concerns on campus. I really value interaction with students. I know many students on a first-name basis. I want students to approach me with their questions and concerns," Geiger said.

"I strongly believe in IIT, it is full of great minds. I believe in the co-curricular experience. Student affairs are an important role that is changing," said Geiger.

Tragedy

continued from page 1

1980s from India was that nation's first native astronaut. Despite the international interest in the mission, officials very quickly and very assuredly declared that terrorism was extremely unlikely. As Columbus was at an altitude of approximately 200,000 feet and a speed over Mach 16 when the orbiter began to break up. The other five crewmembers aboard Columbus, Commander Rick Husband, pilot Willie McCool, and mission specialists Laurel Clark, Mike Anderson (one of NASA's few African-American astronauts), and David Brown were all Americans, three of which were making their first spaceflight. Early speculation in and out of NASA's shuttle program pointed to a launch anomaly deemed unimportant the day after Columbus's launch on January 16. A piece of foam insulation, apparently from the shuttle's main fuel tank, fell off the vehicle and appeared to hit the orbiter on the left wing. The past two launches also saw similar debris falling, but both of these hit one of the shuttle's solid fuel boosters. As Columbus began re-entry, several of her temperature sensors on her nose section and upper structure as well as tire pressure sensors, completely independent from each other, according to NASA flight engineers, failed to report any measurements. All of the sensor anomalies occurred on the orbiter's left side, and more specifically, in the region of her left wing. During the flight, engineers on the ground determined that the impact would not pose a serious threat to the orbiter, but some data and camera angles were inconclusive as to determining the extent of any damage to the famous thermal tiles. Nothing could be done at this point no matter what the determination, however, as orbiter crews are not equipped for "space walks" to assess and/or repair the tiles. Though no analysis will be complete for possibly weeks from now, early Saturday it was speculated that these anomalies could have been an indication of what went wrong. The complexity of the thermal and pressure loads on an orbiter in re-entry is literally on the level rocket science and thus takes a great deal of analysis and calculations to make any determination.

Despite the great tragedy felt by Americans and those around the world, NASA and the U.S. government have pledged that this will by no means be the end of the Space Shuttle program. The crew of the International Space Station scheduled to remain there until mid-2003, are still retrievable, as a Russian Soyuz capsule remains docked as a lifeboat for them, and other Russian vehicles could be dispatched in the event of a need for evacuation, and construct of the station, though stunted by the orbiter fleet being reduced to three, will continue. Once a determination has been made as to the cause of the disaster, just as with the Challenger explosion in 1986, any safety concerns will be addressed and spaceflight will resume. But we will always remember the seven brave pioneers who gave their lives in the interest of human exploration of space, our planet, and ourselves.
Diary of An American in Paris

Sarah Roudeaneau
TechNews Writer

Paris - This semester, ten architec
ture students from IIT are study-
ing abroad under Professors Tim Brown and Jerry Horn. Though the exchange program has taken place for several years, this is only the fourth semester it has been based in Paris, France. A prime location in Europe, Paris is bustling with new ideas, art, and architecture as well as having a strong his-
torical influence in those areas. As one of the ten students in this grow-
ing program, I have decided to share some of my experiences with you throughout the semester.

Parisiens are beautiful, proud people and though they are not as the stereotype, they appreciate the effort on the part of tourists to learn about and respect their lan-
guage and culture. The weather is often gray and rainy, though they con-
struct it with their colorful fashion sense and exaggerated make-up. The only jeans and sneaker-
brand are designers; sweatshirts are only on tourists. Crepe and panini vendors line the streets, but coffee to go is unheard of.

Though fluency in French is not nec-
essary for surviving in Paris, knowing enough at first is impor-
tant. The airports and metro sys-
tem are extensive and can be confusing, so city maps only in French. It is a bit of a humbling ex-
perience to be thrown amidst all of this for the first time. I have experienced it before. After a few days of fighting jet lag and learning

how to get around town, the metro becomes more decipherable and the chaos starts to take on order. Find-
ing an apartment, however, can be chaotic itself.

The options for housing in Paris are many and the methods of find-
ing it are even more. Speaking French in this case is especially help-
ful to narrow things down. There are some on-line agencies that love to charge an arm and a leg for their booking services and the convenience of pre-arrival arrange-
ment. There are also several loca-
tions that have daily listings, but this method requires a lot of dirty work. Calling the landlord, arrang-
ing appointments, encountering disappointment, frustration and weariness are not only a few of the as-
pects of weeding through listings. We pay for convenience; in the end an agency might be worth the extra money.

After settling into our new apartment, my dandy sidekick and I had some time to explore the town. Under a little less stress, these places people do that as well, however, as public restrooms are almost non-
existent. Food is everywhere, the same sandwiches and pastries are sold on every corner and smoking is as common as walking; everyone does it all the time.

With those first few images of a

Charming city, I leave you this final thought: It happened while walking through the crowded sidewalks that are littered with a rainbow of odd-colored dog excretions. In a

moment of pure genius, my dandy sidekick turned to me and asked, "What do they feed these dogs any way, crepes?'

Until next time.

Warm Up This Winter with UB Movies

Union Board Submission

This semester, the Union Board Movie Series is a hit. The group is going with all first run movies that many students may have already seen. Union Board instead chose to go with a mixture of new releases and cult classics.

"There is something for everyone to enjoy," states Veronica Rangel, Graduate Assistant for Student Activities and advisor of the Films Chair. "We tried to come up with movie titles that could incor-
porate some interesting programs around." Some of the ideas include a Valentine's Day theme for "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" and a Greek Week activity with Fast Times at Ridgemont High. Union Board is hoping to work with some of the cultural organizations for such films as Barbershop and Mon-
soon Wedding to tie into the theme of the movies.

Student reaction to this semester's list has been met with much excitement. "Finally we have a list of movies that I would go see," exclaims junior Christie Laub, aka "a movie is she excited about? "The Ring, definitely," Jacques Mascotte, a Building Manager in the HUB, puts the films together every week, and is happy about the vari-
ety of films. "Road Trip is such a
great way to end the year."

However, not all films are com-
edies. "Bowling for Columbine" portrays the fascination with guns in America. Josh Sainer is waiting for this one especially, "If it is such an important movie that everyone should have to see." Amanda Modjeski, VP for Publicity for UB, is working very hard to get the word out about the movies. "I am getting posters put up and making book marks for people to take with the, but the best way to advertise is word of mouth. If everyone goes and brings a friend we will have a great crowd.

Anyone interested in helping out with the movies should contact Chris Leyf, UB films chair at leif@buffalo.edu. We all need people to collect money or help post fly-ers. It can be very challenging for try to please everyone but I think we did a good job." This semester the theme is "Too cold to go out? Warm up with a UB movie." The movies are shown every week in the HUB auditorium on Thursdays and Saturdays at 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm and Sundays at 3:00 pm. Cost is $0.50.

1/23 - 1/26: XXX
1/30 - 2/2: Red Dragon
2/6 - 2/9: Barbershop
2/13 - 2/15: My Big Fat Greek Wed-
ding
2/20 - 2/23: South Park the Movie
2/27 - 3/2: Slumdog Millionaire
3/3 - 3/6: Monsoon Wedding
3/10 - 3/13: Bowing for Columbine
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Challenging Affirmative Action

Paul Kroener
TechNews Writer

Imagine you are a white female, in high school, ranked 3rd in your class with a GPA above a 4.0 and a member of your school's varsity basketball team. Have you played on the girl's varsity basketball team as the point guard for four years, and earned an all-conference player three of the four. Imagine now you are another white female, a friend to the first, ranked 5th in your class with a GPA above a 4.0. You have run track for four years, competing in middle distance events, long jump, and high jump, and have been named to all the all-conference team twice. As either of these two exceedingly bright, athletic, and driven individuals, imagine now applying to upper level universities such as UNC, Miami, or Michigan. Imagine now that, as either described female, you are put on the waiting list at each of these schools. Shocked? Which one would assume is Dismayed? Definitely.

Now imagine, as either of these two individuals, the news of your best friends, ranked 12th in your class with a 3.95 GPA, with no athletic involvement, no extracurricular involvement whatsoever (aside from the laughable National Honors Society), apply to Northwestern University. She is promptly shot down, right? Put on the waiting list? No. She is accepted. Not only accepted, but granted a half tuition scholarship. Why? Is she poor? No. Her family is as well off as your own, (lives in a nice house in the suburbs, just like you.) Is she related to someone working at the university (thereby entitled to admission and tuition breaks much like IIT)? No. Well what gives? You try to look past it. You try to find another reason. But you can’t avoid the fact and she is a Hispanic. Her scholarship is one awarded only to Hispanic women going to school at certain universities, one of them being Northwestern. (This was an actual situation that took place when I was a senior in high school)

Granted, this is not a situation that is parallel to the admissions system at Michigan. That will be covered soon. However this is Affirmative Action at work, at its most deceitful. Now, more power to the organization that grants this scholarship for wanting to further the cause of Hispanic women, however is it fair to assume that this person was admitted to Northwestern based on her ability? By comparison to the first two girls described, who were not admitted, most certainly not. The Hispanic girl was admitted because the university would be receiving guaranteed scholarship money, and would look good publicly in doing so, by association with a minority group.

This was a case of a roundabout way of filling an unquota. Argue its existence if you will, but do not deny the fact that one of the first two girls was raped of a top-flight education for the sake of public relations.

Now, as to the Affirmative Action plan in place at the University of Michigan, let us analyze the specifics so graciously researched by Miss Chaurasiya in last week’s paper. If you are only one of the following: African-American, American-Indian, Hispanic, (of any race), or related to an alumus, you receive a free 20 points on your admissions evaluation. To bring this to a smaller, more everyday level, let us say you are in line at McDonald’s, next to a black man. You order a cheeseburger and pay the menu price of $1.50. He orders a cheeseburger and only pays $1.30. You ask why. The cashier tells you he automatically receives a 20-cent discount for being black. Again you ask why. You are told that it is because McDonald’s wants more black customers, so they make it easier for them to pay.

The inferences that can readily be taken from this situation are numerous and ridiculous. First, as a white customer, you must be outraged. You have to pay more because you were born white? On the other end, if you are the black customer, you must feel small. Are you given a discount because you were born black? The company is giving you a discount because they don’t feel you are able to afford $1.50 as easily as is the white customer? Does that mean white people are better than you? Whatever it means, it’s fair. It’s Affirmative Action.

As to President Bush, it would seem that some people would inform Bush that he made it through his schooling substantially with the aid of policies that were in place, which he had no control over whatsoever, that he should feel obligated to honoring such policies. This is an extremely childish view on the situation, quite akin to a teenager whining to his father, “Well your dad got you a car when you were a kid, why can’t I have one?” When his father tells him he has to work to buy his own car.

In regards to Bush’s actions, Miss Chaurasiya would do well to reevaluate the legal process in regard to this particular Supreme Court hearing. In stating “his actions are the equivalent of banning abortion before the courts overturn Roe v. Wade,” she clearly assumes that the act of submitting a statement of his view on the situation as President is some type of direct mandate to the panel of judges as to what the decision should be. Bush has done nothing more than make a statement of preference to the Supreme Court, an act which is so common for any President, that it has become almost official procedure in any Supreme Court hearing. Let us not forget that, while Bush’s opinions may have some marginal effect on the outcome of this case, the Supreme Court must still make its decision based on its interpretation of the wording of the Constitution, as well as precedent set in prior Supreme Court decisions.

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A Game of Thrones Sits High Above Others

Steven Chen
TechNews Writer

Among the Fantasy books I've read, George RR Martin's have been the most realistic. A Game of Thrones is the first book in A Song of Ice and Fire. One of six books in a still unfinished fantasy series, it starts out with the House of Stark and the war that breaks out with the House of Lannister. The story quickly escalates into massive war that tears apart the once unified Seven Kingdoms and numerous factions struggle for power. Every character is amazing realistic because every single person in the book has flaws regardless of who they are. Characters such as Lord Eddard Stark, Warden of the North who has cold, unbending honor but father a bastard. Lady Catelyn Stark is a very loving mother to her children but has a cold heart toward her husband's illegitimate son. King Robert Baratheon, whose glory days of war won him the throne are now but a fading memory, bored of his king's duties and no longer carries his great warhammer, but instead a great belly and a skin of wine. No less than a thousand words would be necessary to truly describe each of the people. Even the villains at some point begin to seem somewhat good as George RR Martin adds more background to their stories and the reader can see the reasons behind their actions. The book starts out as very black and white. But soon the colors blend and various shades of grey form around each character, making the reader have difficulty telling who the "good guy" is now.

The writing is very detailed and flows amazingly well. Any reader can easily imagine the ringing of the steel upon the great armies of King Robert with his great aileron hammer and warhammer crashed upon the rivets of the Trident against the legions in the Dorne home world, where the Roman Senate is exterminated by a mysterious weapon.

The story is about the wedding on Betazed, Picard, Worf and Data shuttle down to a planet from which strange signals have been emanating. They are surprised to find an android that looks exactly like Data, albeit a little more primitive, named B-4 ("before," perhaps?). After being chased off the planet by its aggressive pre-war inhabitants, and performing a Triple X-rivaling stunt involving an armed dune buggy, a cliff and a shuttle, they get back to Enterprise in one piece (except for B-4, who was already in many pieces when found).

More interruptions follow. As they are trying to get B-4 to perform some more complex actions, even to the extent of training Data's memories into him, Picard receives an order from Admiral Janeway (of Star Trek Voyager fame) to cross the Neutral Zone and head for Romulus, to discuss peace with the new Romulan Emperor, Shiznon.

The Enterprise is soon near Romulus, and comes face to face with a heavily armed garrison of space-faring jargoonian, the Roman flagship Scimitar, which Picard aptly labels "a predator." Upon meeting Shiznon, they discover that he is not a Roman as they were previously informed, but a human who was brought up on Remus by the Roman Vigilors, and seized control of the Roman Empire for them. Shiznon publicly feigns a longing for peace, but is secretly plotting to use a terrible weapon to cripple the Federation.

Things get interesting from there. On one, there is a saboteur on board, and Shiznon is soon playing cat and mouse with the Enterprise in the Rift. Shiznon is repeatedly trying to capture Picard alive so he can use his mind to train Data's memories into him, and then Picard and Data try to escape by flying a Romulan shuttle on a collision course with the Enterprise. The Enterprise is boarded by some very nasty Reman troopers.

A theme that repeats itself at least twice in Nemesis is the "nature vs. nurture" question. Audiophiles will get to view some great views of the Rift, and learn of the history and nature of the Remans, who haven't been seen much in the series or the movies thus far. The Remulans appear a lot in this movie, and appropriately so, since they are the currently running Star Trek Enterprise series will likely end with the Romulan-Federation war and the destruction of the Neutral Zone. Also featured in Nemesis are some wonderful combat scenes with Romulan Warbirds (latest version, without ventral hull, more bird-like) in action.

Review rating: 4.5
MPAA rating: PG-13

The Imperial capital city at Ra'tileffi

A Game of Thrones Sits High Above Others

Steven Chen
TechNews Writer

Movie Review: Star Trek: Nemesis

Sohan D'Souza
TechNews Writer

As the observed tradition goes, even-numbered Star Trek movies are hit and odd-numbered ones are not so hot. Nemesis, being the tenth in the long proud line of made-for-theater Star Trek films, has consequently raised high expectations and much excitement in the franchise's colossal fan base. And despite less-than-flattering evaluations from a few professional critics, the odd-even thing was once again right on the mark.

Nemesis is about the final voyage of the "Next Generation" crew. Troi and Riker are about to be married, and Riker and Dr. Crusher are soon to be given their own commands positions. As the celebrations are underway and surly Worf barks at the idea of attending a Betazed wedding, finding complete nudity of all attendees is traditional at such an event, all is not well on the Romulan home world, where the Romulan Senate is exterminated by a mysterious weapon.

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The Imperial capital city at Ra'tileffi
Movie Review: Le Pacte des Loups

The Brotherhood of the Wolf

Sohan D’Souza

TechNews Writer

In a bustling town in pre-revolution France, life has suddenly taken a sharp turn for the dramatic, as a series of violent deaths related to animal attacks shake up the townsfolk. The local animal control is powerless to stop the critter in question, and the common people soon label this fierce enigmatic creature, "The Beast". It soon becomes clear that this is no ordinary predator, and that the town is a pawn in a cold war of national proportions between two vastly powerful factions.

As "The Brotherhood of the Wolf" opens, the beast kills again, and the monarchy, in desperation, sends in the specialists: Grégoire de Fronsac (Samuel Rihan), a decorated Chevalier, naturalist and not-so-amateur detective, and his Mohawk companion, Mani (Mark Dasacas). In the pouring rain, they save a man and his disturbed daughter from an angry band of witch-hunters, giving Mani an opportunity to display his wind-whipping, bone-breaking and quarterstaff moves, worthy of a good ol' minstrel flick. Upon dispatching the little mob to Achesville, they head to the town of Gévaudan to begin their royally-commissioned mission: Eliminate the "beast" problem. They arrive to find that the French army is not doing a very good job of it, and the nobility isn't particularly anxious about the situation, except for a few, such as the young adventure-seeking Thomas d'Apcher (Jérémie Renier) and the charming independence-seeking Marianne de Morangias (Emilie Dequenne).

De Fronsac soon comes to trust d'Apcher, and is smitten with Mademoiselle de Morangais, though he is not so sure about the other nobles and the clergy, especially Marianne's sullen and crusty brother, Jean-François de Morangias (Vincent Cassel). Shady characters abound, including an aggressive cult of fight-pickers, and a secretive "prostitute" named Sylvia (Monica Bellucci), who may be more than she initially appears to be. The other nobles show great interest in de Fronsac and his theories, as well as his relatively exotic companion, but they do not offer much by way of useful cooperation.

In the meantime, people seem to be moved around, in and out of the town by an invisible but powerful hand. And the beast goes on with its bloody rampage, unhindered by the futile efforts at preventive measures being taken by some nobles and the military. Also, many of the nobles use the popular theory that the beast is a kind of wolf as an excuse to go on a hunt and slaughter hundreds of wolves, much to the chagrin of Mani, whose Native American spirituality is offended at the liberal massacre of the blameless animals. As his investigation progresses, aided by the discovery and examination of fresh human kills and the testimony of live witnesses, de Fronsac begins to ponder the formerly unthinkable question: Does the beast have intelligence... and a purpose?

Based on the French legend of the beast of Gévaudan, this latest celluloid-based import from France was a hit in its country of origin, and has been received well by American audiences as well. The theater version of the film was tracked in French with English subtitles, while the video is English dubbed (quite professionally, I do observe). Being a linguistic purist (anime and otherwise), this critic whole-heartedly recommends getting the DVD with the French voice-track, and watching it with English subtitles (unless you're fluent in French, that is). It may also be a good opportunity to exercise those French language skills you learnt less back in high school, or bring back memories of CANAL+.

"The Brotherhood of the Wolf", under the expert care of director and writer Christophe Gans, is a product of many genres and influences, from mystery to martial arts to animal hunt to werewolf, je ne sais quoi. The action sequences are ex-
Cricket Club to Telecast World Cup

Arjun Shinrath
Sports Writer

The semester has begun, and most of those who have had a totally relaxing holiday, this may sound like dreadful news. Assignments, exams, projects, and presentations - the entire cycle repeats itself. The mere thought of this is enough to produce paranoia in people. The memories of the holiday season are washed away by the same old fears every time the semester starts. Well, all is not lost. There is some hope left for those of you who are unwilling to sacrifice yourselves to the rigors of the semester. The IIT Cricket Club has a couple of events lined up right for you, enough to get the initial jitters out of your system to get right through the semester.

Even after the semester was over, the members of the IIT Cricket Club relinquished the need for a sabbatical and immersed themselves into their work towards making the upcoming days exciting for you all. The work that was done has been commendable indeed. Right down to the minutest details, every event had been planned. This kind of teamwork and responsibility has won a lot of doors open to the Club itself. The pinnacle was reached when the club won the prize for the Best Managed Event in September, when the ICC Champions Trophy was telecast.

Following the club then telecast the West Indies Tour of India between 11/06/2002 and 11/24/2002. Then came the final week and everyone expected the club to close shop for the winter holidays. However, the members plugged on and with their efforts the Club was able to organize an event, which was known as the “CURTAIN RAISER” held on the cricket tournaments that were held during the summer break.

Following this, a presentation was made by Mr. Amit Marwah, who on behalf of the Cricket Club, made public the plans made by the club to telecast the World Cup - the most biggest tournament amongst the entire cricket playing nations. It must be said that no one knew if they would be able to pull it off. The members of the cricket club went about in organizing this event. No sooner had the members taken a breather than the year of the Indians to the island of New Zealand came up. However, the club rolled on, just like a well-oiled piece of machinery. With utmost responsibility and sincerity each member accomplished the task assigned to him/her. Without any hassles the event was able to telecast this tour game, which was also the opening game of the World Cup.

Right now, the Cricket Club is immersed in bringing to the IIT community the world’s most prestigious cricket tournament - the World Cup. For those who know it is all about, images of the previous world cups would probably be flashing across your from each country and pits them against each other, to prove to the world why they are the best. However, it is something that cannot be done without an individualistic display. Each player plays for his team, his country and the people of his country who religiously follow every match played by their country.

The IIT Cricket Club hopes to capture all the excitement but for the IIT community to savor. Steps have already been taken. The World Cup is scheduled to be between the 5th of February and the 23rd of March. Arrangements are being made to purchase the telecasting rights from DISH NETWORK, a division of Echo Star Satellite Corporation. These telecasting rights have been granted to the match organizers. Live screening of the matches is done with the help of the IIT Cricket Club. All the matches are carried over to the respective venues. These venues are allotted to us by the I/CIC.

A budget of Rs 50,000 has been allotted to the IIT Cricket Club towards purchasing the telecasting rights.

An event of such magnitude needs a lot of manpower. Not surprisingly, many students have come and offered their help towards organizing this event. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements. The Cricket Club wishes to express its gratitude to all those people who are selflessly helping in the arrangements.

Lady Hawks Drop Another One

Abigail Ash
Sports Writer

The Illinois Tech Women went 0-3 this week against Illinois Institute of Technology, South Bend, with Marta Bastryk and Kendra Hardin at the forward positions. The Hawks played hard, and demonstrated admirable persistence, but the rims were unforgiving and Illinois Tech ended the game 9-49. The only positive note was the high scorer for the Hawks, finishing the game with 15 points. Marta also played hard on defense, and had two steals in addition to her five rebounds. Ash was the second leading scorer for the Hawks with 7 points, and Hardin added 2 to the board for a grand total of 24 points to South Bend’s 81 points. Seye Adekeye contributed a steal and a rebound. The IIT women began to run short on players toward the end of the game, as Hardin got in foul trouble and committed her fifth foul toward the end of the second half. Sarah Ociewieja sprained an ankle shortly after halftime and sat out the rest of the game, but was ready to play for the Hawks again on Tuesday. The Scarlet Hawks will face South Bend again at home on February 15, and perhaps even for a third time in the CCAC Tournament.

On Thursday the IIT women played Moody Bible Institute for the second time this season, and although they again suffered a loss, the team played well. The first half found the Hawks down by almost thirty points, but after halftime they closed the gap to fifteen. Illinois Tech outscored Moody in the second half 35-24, and amazingly, our women were actually having fun on the court. The players found themselves in pretty good shape from the brutal game schedule over Christmas break, and they were able to run with Moody, and play high-pressure defense. Ash, Joseph, and Hardin each had two steals, and Ociewieja and Boldra each added one more. Ashley was the leading scorer for the Hawks with 21 points, 4 rebounds and a blocked shot. However, the game was dominated by the high-scoring defense and fouled out with only two minutes left in the game. Marta Joseph and Kendra Hardin were named co-mvp's for IIT with 11 points and 7 rebounds. Sarah Ociewieja had 8 points, 4 rebounds, 1 steal, and 1 block, and also added 4, and Chelsea Boldra added 2 more. The Moody Bible women were dominated by the Hawks defense, and even invited the Hawks to their pizza and prayer with them after the game. The IIT women play Purdue North Central on February 4, at 7:00 pm. Come and support your team.