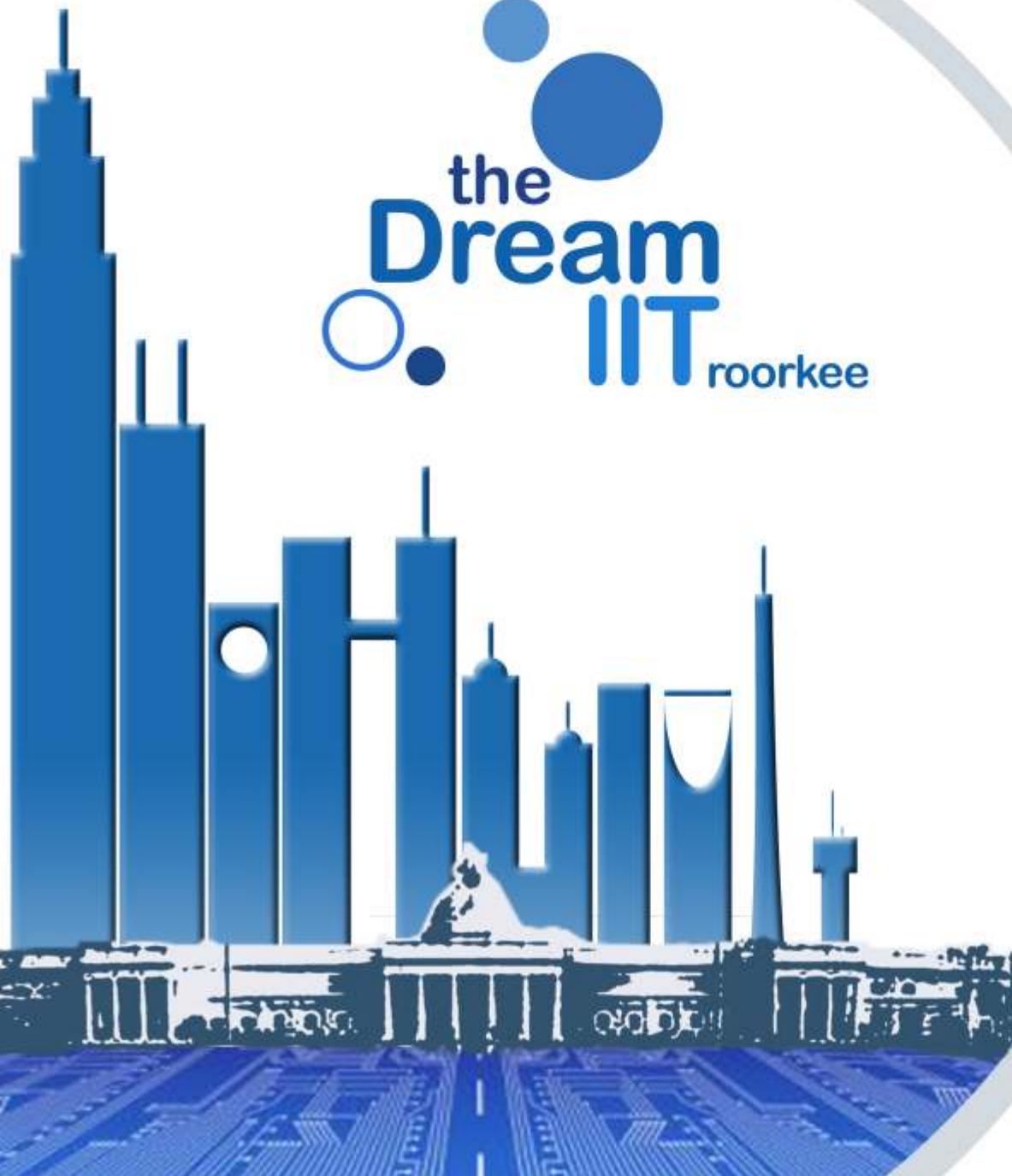


Vol. XXIII No. 3

WATCH OUT

students' news magazine, iit roorkee



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Cover Story 8

Dream IIT- Imagining the IIT of our dreams and the steps being taken in that direction.

Unsafe campus 4

A look at the various threats to campus security.

Cola Shikanji

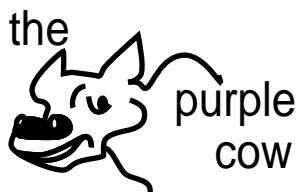
I've never seen *Lakshya*, though I doubt I've missed much in life. However, there is this one scene that I have seen. Preity Zinta, having a very bad hair day, triumphantly declares, "*Lakshya*, that's the word." And for most of us, at various stages of our lives, *Lakshya* or Goal has indeed, been the word. From qualifying for IIT to waking up in time to attend the morning's lecture, our entire lives revolve around the many goals we set. Each of these targets stems from a dream, a plan or just a fleeting desire, which ultimately decides our course of action and often ends up shaping our destiny.

Look at the world around you and you will see that it is so because of the daring phantasms of some individuals- be it Kekule, who literally dreamt up the structure of Benzene and added a new dimension to the meaning of Organic Chemistry, or Ratan Tata today, who envisaged and unveiled the revolutionary Nano. Our dreams may seem far-fetched in the present context, but are often not so. When Martin Luther Jr. said, "I have a dream", little did he know that America would one day be on the verge of having her first Black President. Or why go so far? Ten years ago, would any sane soul studying at IITR have even dared to think that the campus would be wi-fi'd? In my own three years at the institute, I've seen the Central Library, that resplendent architectural delight which fills every IITR student's heart with pride, being built from zilch. I've seen, with great relief, the Hangar get renovated, which means that my graduation day video won't look as though it was miraculously shot in the 18th century. In these three years itself, IITR has burgeoned, and so have all of us.

We, at Watch Out, decided to do an investigative story on the elements that the Roorkeeite's dreams are made up of. Our results ranged from the reasonable (making the course structure more flexible) to the hopeful (X-boxes at the Student's Club) to the highly optimistic (Co-ed hostels, anyone?). At the same time, we also tackled the authorities concerned to see how much chance there was of these dreams actually coming true. We found that most of the changes that are in the pipeline look good and are quite concurrent with what we would want ourselves. A fervent hope is expressed that such plans are not put in abeyance and our upcoming batches can enjoy the facilities offered at this 'Dream IIT'.

I look out of my window and see that while I was dutifully typing out this column, dusk has stolen upon me. Everything around me portends that the end of this column is near. The sun sets, the watchman goes around lighting the tube-lights, the fourth yearites wrap up their now-daily game of cricket as the envious group of work-loaded juniors grudgingly looks on. And at every moment in this panorama of random events that we call life, *Roorkee Dreams*. Cheers.

-Ed



A long long time ago in the isolated kingdom of Roorkee, there was a brutal race. Everybody in the kingdom from Budhia to

Anil Ambani ran for the most coveted prize of them all, the post of Cogni Convener. The 3 most powerful (and popular) sprinters were neck-to-neck and I was not far behind. It was a photo finish, and the brawl that followed was settled deftly by the referee, by declaring all 3 of them conveners. In order to prevent the inevitable clash of egos and to have a scapegoat for all the mishaps, it was decided that there would be *One convener to Rule them All* – the epitome of honesty, a born leader, and most importantly, a perennial loser. And thus I was elected the Convener of all Conveners. The cognizance accounts were in my hands. My precioussss....

Gone will be the days of bun pangas and doodh patti, Cogni would be my ticket out of SP to Polaris. And I deserved it too. In order to do justice to the increase in my bank balance, I came up with some brilliant events - Age Of Umpires (a cricket game where you had to guess whether an umpire had made a wrong decision; if right, you could fire him, and if wrong, you could racially abuse the opposite team from a special list of *Punjabi* slangs. Harbhajan Singh won it in 1993 but was later disqualified on grounds of being a racist). I also made sure that the Female entities' *ppmg (parts per million ghissus)* in the kingdom would increase. Everything was planned... After two months of frantic mails to every institute under the sun with a sizable female population, Cogni finally arrived. Nothing could stop my bank balance from soaring now. Moo-hu-haha.

Cogni saw the 360 acres of pasture in the kingdom filled with a few big, some bad, and many ugly, lost in their desperate attempts to get their hands on the holy trinity of any fest- T-shirts, certis and bandis.; All went well, and my subjects enjoyed Cogni, unaware and unmindful of how much money I was going to make at their expense. Cognizance finally ended and the highly awaited moment finally arrived as I went to the bank to encash my cheques. only to realize that someone had been kind enough to relieve me of my burdens by withdrawing all the money before me.

So much for bidding goodbye to good ol' SP. Ah well, it's the experience that matters.



Shortage of professors has always been a major concern among students. The other day WONNA caught up Dr. D K Paul, Dean of Faculty Affairs. Here is what he had to say:

On the shortage of professors in various departments:

Well, there are vacancies in every department uniformly. Ideally the students -professor ratio should be 9:1. So, it is the student's strength and not the department that determines the no. of professors. For the record, the sanctioned strength of professors, associate professors and assistant professors is 575, whereas the present strength is 365.

On the selection procedure and educational qualifications: Applications are invited, a screening committee is set up and experts called to take interviews. This is succeeded by interviews at the department level. Apart from this, every applicant is made to do a presentation where his expressions, quality of speech and power of explanation are analyzed by an expert team. A professor needs to have a PhD degree with minimum 10 years experience while an associate professor should have a PhD degree and 8 years of experience.

On salaries and perks given to professors: The pay package ranges from Rs. 18,300 to 23,000. Financial support of up to Rs. 1,00,000 is there for attending an international conference out of India once in three years. 75% of the membership fee of one international professional society is provided by the institute. On the personal front Rs. 4000/- per year allowance for purchase of professional books etc. is given. Family accommodation within the campus is also provided on a very nominal license fee.

On the steps being taken to fill the vacancies: We've taken out advertisements in national dailies. This year we are already over with the first series of interviews and the second round will begin shortly. But still more can be done. For example, in IIT Bombay there is a provision for appointing talented PhD scholars even before they get their degrees. Hence catching the talent in the bud. However rules are far stricter in IIT Roorkee.

Sanjay Garg: 9897449256

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Ever fantasized of having a life size model of Pamela Anderson in your room or that of the 'girl next door'? Lo and behold! The **Three Dimensional Printing Machine** is here. 3D printing, on which the machine is based, is a method of converting a virtual 3D model into a physical object.

3D printers typically work by printing successive layers on top of the previous to build up a three dimensional object. No toxic chemicals are required, and minimal post printing finish work is needed. These machines bond layers of a fine powder (plaster, corn starch or resins) using adhesive from the printhead, in the shape of each cross-section of the model. Alternately, these machines may feed liquids, such as photopolymer, through an inkjet-type printhead to form each layer of the model, using an ultraviolet (UV) flood lamp mounted in the print head. 3D printers are generally faster, more affordable and easier to use than other rapid prototyping technologies. But issues like cost of the printed prototype, initial cost, choice of materials, color capabilities, etc. are still a challenge. So don't expect your Pamela to come cheap.

3D printing technology is currently being studied by biotechnologists for possible use in tissue engineering applications where organs and body parts are built using inkjet techniques. Layers of living cells are deposited onto a gel medium and slowly built up to form three dimensional structures. Self replicating 3D printers are also being researched and if they succeed the cost of 3D printers will come down drastically. Mission impossible achieved! While the Tom Cruise's flick showed the laser 3D printing machine's working, this machine's miracles could literally be as many as you could imagine. But nothing beats imagining a cushy Pamela!



NEWTON'S FIRST LAW

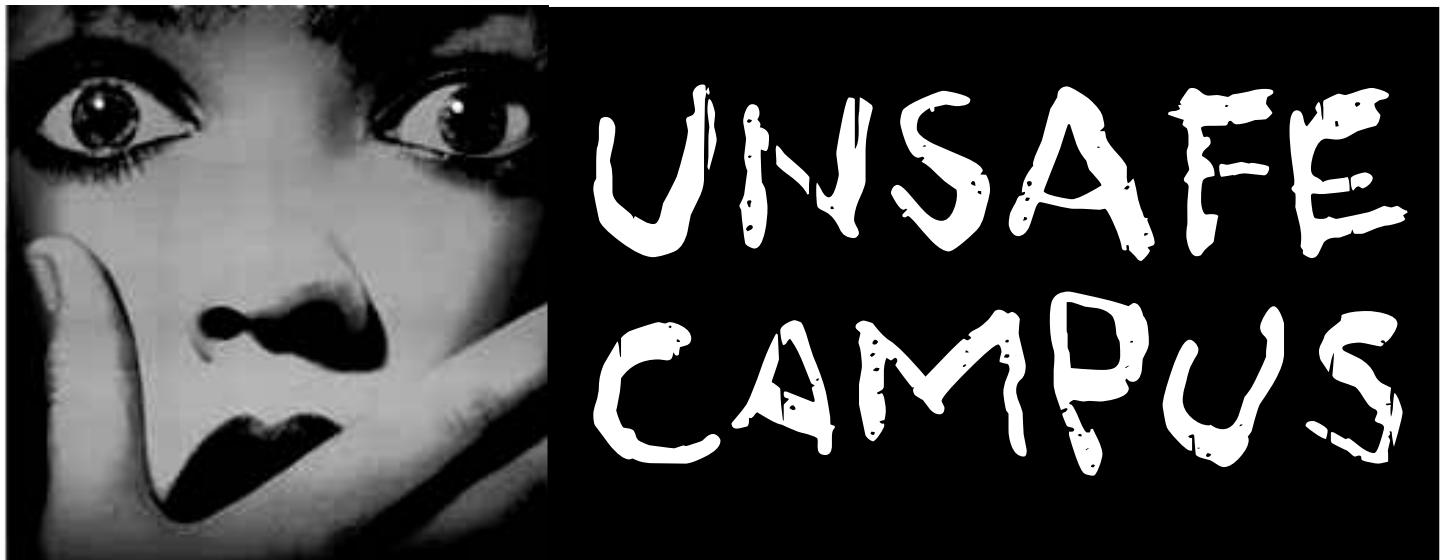
A new year begins and hence a new semester. The same old life falls back into place, starting with the rigorous form filling for registration all over again. Sometimes one wonders whether there is still a need to fill up six (up from five) cards for registration when things can be digitally stocked and duplicated without too much pain? We are now an IIT, and one would think it should be visible in all the little things around us. But the UoR tags on the TBLS cards and books tell a different story-they speak of an inertia holding us, which we seem too lazy to break.

Inertia takes root in the heart of human nature. We long for stability in our lives and get used to a certain manner of doing things. And thus we view change with suspicion because of the fear of the unknown. Another factor causing a resistance to change is ignorance. We are either unaware a problem exists or that a better solution can be found. Most people are comfortable operating in a state of ignorance; they do not want to know anything affecting their environment.

Inertia should not be confused with habit. Inability to write with your other hand isn't inertia, but not writing in lectures at all is. Wearing jeans before you put on your t-shirt (or doing it the other way round) is a habit, but doing it without taking a bath for a week is inertia. You sleep every night (at least in the first sem of the first year) promising yourself that next day you are going to get up at the crack of dawn, have a bath, have 3 meals in the mess, take comprehensive notes in every lecture, jog loops around LBS and end your day happily with loads of ghissing. And then you wake up at 11A.M. and say so much for that plan. Finally, (if you're a typical IITian that is) you accept the fact that you are in your comfort zone and attempting to leave it is about as easy as having your tooth pulled out.

IITs are supposed to be places which breed intellectuals, give them lots of room for creativity and thinking and enough resources to materialize them. Inertia, unfortunately, is the enemy of broadmindedness. A lack of scope to work in fields other than one's own major, a continued refusal to change when it comes to our overseas policies and MoU's signed with other institutes, no review of industry ties- sound familiar? The institute appears to be deep in hibernation. We are facing a severe faculty crunch and yet we refuse to change the faculty hiring mechanism. Even student-faculty relations policies here have hardly changed over the years.

Change is the only constant thing in this world. So as individuals, as groups and departments, as an institute let's take Andy Dufrane's advice- "Get busy living- or get busy dyin'!"



"I was returning with two of my friends from the market. Near the Saraswati Mandir, two guys on a motorcycle started taking photographs of us. We were near the gate adjoining Kasturba Bhawan, and we shouted to the security guards there to stop the bike but they did not even bat an eyelid. We had the bike's number and we submitted it to the authorities, but of no avail. They even told us that eventually our 'reputation' would suffer and we should back off."

This incident, narrated to us by a girl of Sarojini Bhawan (name withheld on request) comprehensively summarizes the disturbing state of security on the campus. With burglaries, eve-teasing and accidents becoming the norm rather than the exception, people are beginning to think that Iraq is probably safer to live in. We decided that it was high time to alert people to the various threats on campus.

CAUSES

Outside every one of the many gates of the campus, there is a notice proclaiming that the region within is a "Restricted Area." Either literacy is at an all time low, or perhaps the problem is visibility- one way or the other, nobody seems to see the boards. With the campus rapidly turning into a thoroughfare, perhaps the security issues plaguing us should come as no surprise. There appears to be practically no checks on the people entering the campus. The scene at Nesci, which seems to be the only decent hangout within a 20 km radius, substantiates our claim. Despite a notice stating that the café is meant only for residents of the campus and their guests, most of the denizens of Haridwar district seem to have made it their very own coffee hangout.

Contrast this with the scenario at other institutes. At IIT-Madras, for instance, one practically has to file a report just to gain entry into the campus. The purpose of the visit is stated and recorded, along with the vehicle number, if any,

before anyone is let through. It's no different at Delhi or Bombay, either. Both the campuses have token systems for entry. Similar systems are in place at most residential colleges across the country.

We, on the other hand, seem to believe in the basic good of mankind. While Mahatma Gandhi might be proud, it does not make the security guards' task any easier. There even appear to be some hotspots for troublemakers. **Himaja**, of the **EC Department III Year**, feels, "**Security has improved over the past couple of years. But it needs to be better still, especially on the Thomason Marg.**"

REPERCUSSIONS

In our usual, mixed-up manner, rather than tackling the elements that cause the problem, we've been attempting to find a solution by penalizing the victims. An ideal solution to the security issues on campus would be one that makes it easier for students to get things done while also discouraging any miscreants from making trouble.

The present state of security makes the Late Permission for girls a necessary evil. No one attempts to deny that it acts as a deterrent to their getting more involved in campus life. The timings for Thomso and Cognizance, where the day ends at 10:00 P.M. is another consequence of the same. Various mishaps at Thomso could have been avoided, perhaps, if we

had been able to trust our security personnel. When, as **Aparajita Sant** of **Electrical III Year** puts it, “**the authorities themselves are not confident of the security they are providing us,**” they are bound to be over-cautious at times, leading to a relative lack of freedom in the institute.

Another major aspect of security relates to the use of motorized vehicles. While students are not allowed to have or operate them, the frighteningly large number of accidents reflects the improper monitoring of 2 and 4 wheelers on campus. With a large number of pedestrians on the road, the lack of adherence to speed limits is nothing short of wanton recklessness. What's more, motorcycles have transcended being just a means of transport, and have now become tools for well-planned mobile phone robberies and eve-teasing. **Ambesh, a II Year Electrical student**, will attest to the former- his phone was snatched right out of his hand while he was talking, in a case which gives a new meaning to the phrase “daylight robbery.” Or ask **Indranil Basu, Meta-III year**, who met with a bad accident due to rash driving on campus. No prizes for guessing whether the car was an outsider’s or not.

SOLUTIONS

While we have been placing the majority of the blame off-campus, it is evident that completely curbing the entry of outsiders is neither practical nor desirable. The S.B.I., the P.N.B. and the institute hospital, to name just 3, are amenities used by one and all. However, proceedings are on in court regarding restriction of entry after a certain time (see box). A computer-based entry system is a very feasible and efficient solution to the campus' security problems. This system would make it easier to track down speeding vehicles and misbehaving elements. In the short term, visitors' passes could be issued stating clearly the purpose and duration of the visit. Another grouse we found, particularly among girls, was the inapproachable behavior of the security staff and the red-tape surrounding the process of registering complaints. Most feel that even for the smallest of complaints, the entire procedure, which involves the filing of an official complaint at the main building, is too long and tedious and also provides an opportunity for the perpetrator to get away. There is therefore, an urgent need, to simplify the matter, to enable the registration of complaints at the security booths, and a way to immediately contact security personnel.

DoSW's interview

What is currently being done to make the campus safe for girls?

The vehicle of every professor or employee on campus has a sticker and the ones that don't have the sticker are only allowed entry from the SQCC gate after their details are noted down. There are 50 guards on duty at any given time. However, the safety can be ensured only by the proactive approach of the students. It is very shameful that not a single eve teaser has been caught or even properly reported in a campus such as ours with so many students. If the students find eve teasing happening anywhere, they have every right to use force against the teaser. Even when they are at high speeds, at least the vehicle number can be noted and reported on the gates, so that prompt action can be taken and the miscreant can be stopped. If someone is afraid to confront the offenders, they can just hold them there and call any security or me. I shall personally put the offender in his proper place.

Why can't all gates be closed by 4 p.m.?

Khanjarpur and Solanipuram areas have access only through the roads in the campus. The people outside have the right to passage here and hence, can't be stopped. Their vehicle numbers are noted down on the gate nevertheless. Court proceedings are going on but this issue does not have any alternate or short term solution.

Why does there exist a security lag in campus?

Students expect that security should reach at the incident site while the offender has already fled. This serves no purpose. It is important that students inform the gates promptly so that the offender can be stopped, rather than expecting security to come to the spot.

Why do outsiders occupy the ABN grounds even after school hours?

I don't think they are outsiders. They are mostly the employee's children. However, if anybody feels otherwise, he/she has every right to question them and call security if need be.

Any message for the students?

If a girl in the institute is teased by anybody, it shows our weakness. The students are unconcerned and deliberately ignorant of such incidents. They need to adopt a proactive approach. If any offence from rash driving to eve teasing or stealing is done in the campus, the students have authorities' backing to put a stop to it instantly, and use force if need be. After all, this is a home for them while they are here. If they won't tolerate such incidents at their homes, why do they tolerate it here! If the offenders are properly punished a few times, the message would be clear to all others that one can't get away with acting inappropriately on campus premises.

Almost Famous

Here he walks towards us, just on time, flashing his 1 dollar smile. He's 'almost' famous as the head of the placement team, marketing & sponsorship co-ordinator in Cognizance, T-tennis secy. For those with no social life whatsoever, he's also known as **Vaibhav Tandon** (yipeeeee).

WONA: First things first, your first crush on campus?

Tandon: You want to know the name?(duh!) It was Sonali Mangal. (*Et tu, brute!*) It was in my 3rd semester. It was quite a cultural shock here. It lasted only for a month though.

WONA: Did you do anything about it?

VT: No. I moved on to some other girl in a month.
(*Chickened out seeing the competition?*)

WONA: Why do you think you are as popular as you are?

VT: Some people do great things and for some people greatness is thrust upon them.
(*FYI, the question was meant to be sarcastic*)

WONA: What is the craziest thing you did since you joined IITR?

VT: Once, I went to Rishikesh with my friends. We went to the Lakshman Jhula with lots to drink and camped there till 7 in the morning. At one time I was in such a state that I ran up and down the Lakshman Jhula 4-5 times.

(*'High' above the Ganges! Or were you imagining yourself to be a TT ball?*)

WONA: What are the entries on your 'things-to-do-before-leaving-Roorkee list'?

VT: I want to take a hot chick out on a romantic date. Maybe to Haridwar at night, near the ghats...
(*What do yo have against the places of pilgrimage?*)

WONA: And finally... your thoughts on WONAs?

VT: You guys are doing a good job. But it would be even better if you come up with something like a sting operation or something, on which girl is going around with whom.
(*And then we rename ourselves Watch Out Gossip Agency.*)

The interview ended on a pleasant note. Vaibhav gave us a Chapo. Yipppeee again.



The toughest lesson in marketing is the seemingly simple statement- "any publicity is good publicity." Going by the number of absurd titles that have been churned out in our insti, the junta here seems to have mastered it already (no wonder so many of us clear the CAT). Some events, though, took this lesson a bit too far and sported titles that not only caught your attention, but also made you roll on the floor with laughter every time they were mentioned. Here are a few of our favourites:-

What's in a name?

1. Spornado: Global warming it seems has finally taken its toll on the campus with the DoMS becoming its first victim. The future looks bleak with rain, hail and thunder all set to shower down on us. A few valuable suggestions to our enterprising organizers might just be acade'mists', elect'hurricane', met'sunami'...

2. Mary Jane Greenfields: We have it from highly placed sources that the name is actually a *jugalbandi* of 2 'high'ly popular substances. (Wonder what they could be...) Since few people are aware of this, the name unfortunately ends up sounding more like Spiderman's girlfriend sitting on a lawn, rather than a rock show. The organizers probably saw it as a balancing act to make up for the brilliant name of the event that follows. Could we 'weed' out the truth behind that?

3. sQUIeeZ: How do you make people turn up for a quiz with nothing to offer in terms of either prize money or entertainment? You give it a name so ridiculous that it will make up for the lack of entertainment in the actual quiz itself! Who needs O&M when we have the E&C Dep.? LitSec, are you reading this?

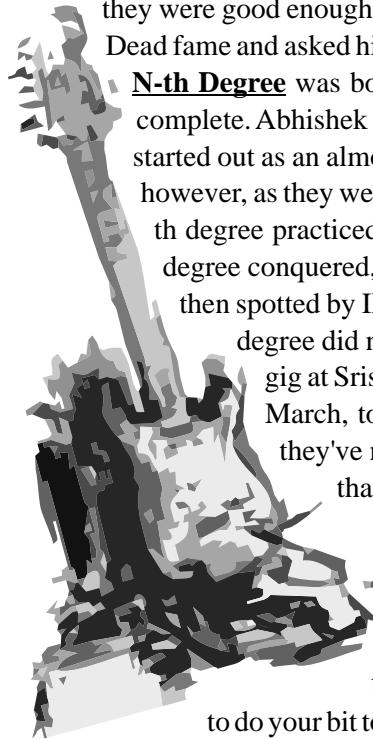
4. DJ Springeez: Nothing defines a person as much as his accent. Some accents are so lousy that you actually start enjoying them. The simple phrase 'spring is here', in the accent of the DJ was enough to send the junta at Hyde Park wild. They loved the phrase so much, that it became the name of the event itself. Deodorants were in great demand with repeated references to the 'Aa Deo sessun'.

5. Fervour, the passion: Why the usage of 'fervour' and 'passion', when they both mean the same, you ask? You see, repetition, the reiteration, is the best way, the technique, to stress one's point, the message. Did someone say RJB was full of wimps who spent half their lives in a certain building opposite the Humanities Department?

Rock, rock, rocking on heaven's door....

n-th Degree

It all started when the omnipresent Pandey Sir told **Abhishek** (Civ II year), **Hemant** and **Pravir** (Mech III year) that they were good enough to form their own rock band. The three contacted **Indranil Basu** (Meta III year), of the Drop Dead fame and asked him to be their vocalist. They then found a drummer in **Vishnu Nath**, Dr. S.K. Nath's son and lo, **n-th Degree** was born. **Neha Vyas** (P&I IV year) joined later as the second vocalist and the band was finally complete. Abhishek was on the lead, Hemant on bass and Praveer on rhythm. Like all others of their ilk, n-th degree started out as an almost garage band practicing at Dr. Nath's premises. This was more due to necessity than choice, however, as they were unable to get another place to play. After being assured of a performance at Thomso 2007, n-th degree practiced for a couple of days at the Govind music room as well. Thomso came, Thomso went, n-th degree conquered, holding their own amidst some of the most talented amateur bands of India. Their talent was then spotted by IIM Lucknow, where they were one of the six bands selected to play in the rock fest. While n-th degree did not win the event, they did earn themselves a lot of appreciation. n-th degree has an upcoming gig at Srishti 2008. Sadly, this is going to be their last performance together as Vishnu is going to leave in March, to pursue an MBA. The hunt for a new drummer is on, though the band members admit that they've not spotted any promising talent so far. Let us hope that the elusive drummer is soon found so that IITR has its own rock band once more.



Musafir

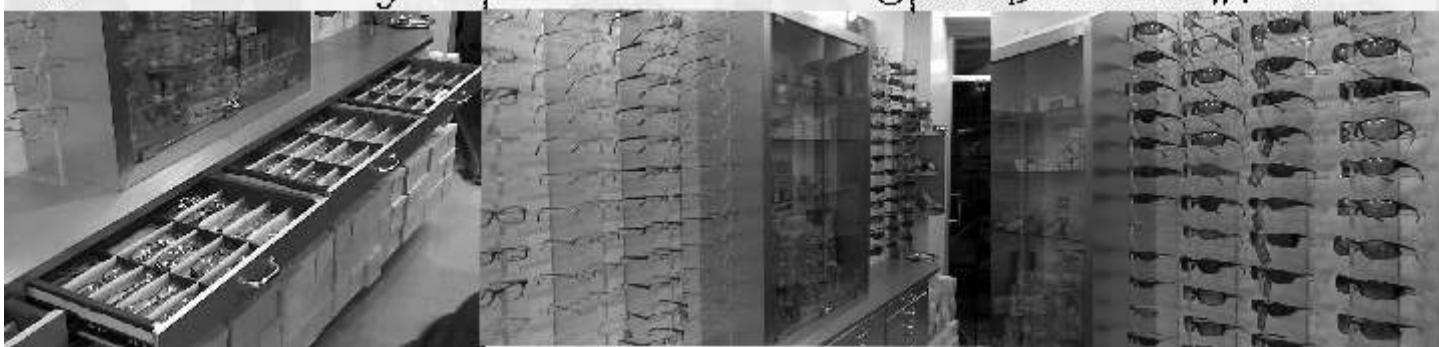
Remember our very own institute band- Drop Dead's lead guitarist **Amit Yadav**. He, with his Hindi rock band, **Musafir**, is raising the bar and moving into the mainstream of music. A major test of whether their fresh and original sound goes down well with the masses will be their performance in the one month competition organized by **Radio City** (in the search of best Hindi band in India) called RC Live starting from 22nd Feb. Stay tuned and vote for them to do your bit to help them win.

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On August 28th 1963, Martin Luther King voiced his dream- the dream that shaped the future of the United States of America, and hence changed the course of the world. Following in the footsteps of that great man, we attempt, in our own little way, to steer the ship of IIT-R toward calmer waters. In less poetic language, we present a vision for our insti- our dreams and the real IIT-R Master Plan 2021.

DREAMS WORK

Infrastructure

The primary parameter considered while reviewing any institute is its infrastructure. It is apparent from our rankings that ours is not at par with the recommended standards for a technical institute, especially one of national importance. From our labs to our hostels, there is a lot to be desired (and to be fair, we do desire a lot, and voice this desire too).

As Dr. S.P. Gupta, Head of the Electrical Engineering Department, says, "It's nice to dream of central air-conditioning and elevators in the department, but the most critical thing for us to do right now is to make the best use of the available infrastructure. While we've had wireless internet for 2 years, and the entire campus is connected, we still follow many obsolete procedures. For instance, the average H.O.D. signs about 100 forms on a daily basis, many of which could be done away with." We've felt it too, every time we register for a semester.

What can be most improved of the infrastructure of our institute are its labs and the research facilities it provides for its students. Somewhat shockingly, we have some labs and instruments dating back to the 1900s! "I was shocked to realize that the measuring instruments lab of our department did not have a single potentiometer that actually worked. These are basic instruments that even high school labs possess. So much for being in an IIT", complains one particularly exasperated electrical sophomore. However, major changes are being made in this regard. Most departments are revamping or have revamped their labs. Large budgets have been approved and the latest instruments are being brought in. Over the next few years we might also see major improvements in the lecture halls,

with the new lecture complex that is in the pipeline. With a capacity of about 150 students, and facilities of presentations, they are set to match the best in the world.

With such momentous changes in the infrastructure planned, it seems that we're pretty much set, as far as facilities are concerned, to meet the year 2021 head on. But a few students believe there is more to do before we say we're there. Nitin Tyagi, a Metallurgy 3rd year student, for instance had a suggestion about a regular Intra Campus Transport system. And the woes of the biotech students have been aptly summed up by Yagna Teja, a II Year Biotech student, when, to a question on which labs in his department needed improvement, he replied, "Please give us some classrooms first!"

Robots replacing the grouch who suspects you of trying to steal another gulab-jamun from under his nose, lecture rooms that include real-time videoconferencing and fingerprint-based attendance systems in class (word from the authors: no, no, no)? Who knows, 2021 might bring all that and more...

Academics

Facilities alone do not make an institute. So if we want this place to be truly futuristic, the academic system needs to be up-to-date as well. And so we went about talking to people to determine their views on the issue of acads at IIT-R as well as to what they thought the dream IIT should have in its curricular structure.

Most students opined that the existing curricula were obsolete in many departments. Course revisions, a few exceptions aside, were few and far between. Worse, the

structure of courses is in itself so designed that no scope exists for branching off, or learning something different. The insti of our dreams would be one in which everything from courses to timetables is flexible. This is certainly feasible, as BITS Pilani already follows such a system. Apart from the obvious benefit that students study more of those courses that they are most interested in, this would also serve as a driving force for more independent and broader study. It is also about time that we embrace the concept of minors and modules, wherein a major in mechanical engineering, say, can also get another degree (the minor) in say, computer science. Of course, as pointed out by Dr. D.K. Mehra, the H.O.D of the Electronics and Computer Science Department, "The minors and electives floated in year depend largely on the availability of faculty with that specialization. So this is not something that we can have that much control over."

Another part of our current curriculum that leaves a lot to be desired is the handling of tutorials. A few students had constructive solutions, with Neeraj Agarwal, a student of CSE III Year, suggesting, "Tutorials could be used for getting highly trained professors to provide additional insights into a topic. Or at least as proper doubt-clarification sessions."

A technical institute is mainly judged on the quality of research and the research papers that are published. At least to initial appearances, the caliber of research currently underway is less than what might be expected. While a few projects, notably the stealth aircraft material design from the Material Science department, and the tracing of the whale ancestry by the Earth Sciences Department, do hit the spotlight, much of the work going on is either invisible or seemingly vague. Dr. G.L. Asawa, H.O.D. Civil Engineering Department, referring to his own department, said that last year, a workshop had been organized with field engineers participating and giving suggestions as to whether the fresh graduates actually met the industry expectations. They expressed some concerns, and they said the department might take some steps in this direction.

The dream institute will be one that supplements, complements and collaborates with the industry. Eventually it all boils down to channelizing the resources. As rightly pointed out by Dr. S.P. Gupta, Head of the Electrical Department, "Be it the professors or the students, there is no shortage of talent. What we lack is focus."

HOD Speak

Infrastructure: In terms of infrastructure the Biotechnology Department figures in the topmost of the three categories as per DBT, Govt. of India. A major improvement in the department will be in the form of a 7 storey state of the art building which will cater to all the current student problems such as classrooms and individual work-spaces. The construction of the building will commence in April '08. The building will have 2 blocks, one for the classrooms and the other for centrally air-conditioned labs.

Research: The department is working on a number of projects sponsored by government agencies. There are 65 research scholars working with the department on different research topics. Due to administrative speed-breakers and government restrictions, research, not only in our institute but in India in general, is not based on need but rather on availability of equipment. Also the location disadvantage adds to the problems. The student problems are only temporary in nature and plans are in place to rectify them.

Vision 2020: By 2020, I visualize Biotechnology at IIT Roorkee as one of the best research and academic Biotechnology centres of India. Though the administration is doing everything in its capacity to make this a world-class academic and research institution, it is expected from the students also to make use of the facilities being provided to them.

What are the palms for the next 30 years?

Short term, we plan to upgrade labs in the next 5 years and in the long term improve our global rankings. Traditionally, the civil department has been the best in the country but we do not know its position in the global rankings. But definitely it is not in the top 10. We plan to improve that. Among other things, we plan to have collaborations with other foreign universities, other than the ones we already have in Europe, Singapore and America.

How do you plan to improve the infrastructure?

We will upgrade our lab equipment. In fact, about 4-5 crore rupees have been sanctioned for this purpose. At the UG level, plans are to phase out the old measuring devices with electronic measuring ones. For improving the classes, new lecture halls will be constructed with a seating capacity of 100-150 students. It will also have facilities for projection of slides and presentations, etc. These will probably be implemented in the next 5 years.

Could you compare the changes that have taken place in the last 20 years and those which are going to take place in the next 20?

The changes in the next 20 years are going to be much more drastic due to the latest advancements in the technology which change almost overnight. Further the department has increased both the quality and quantity of research. Also the department gets around 5 crores of consultancy every year.

Dr. Pereira, Biotech

Dr. Asawa, Civil

All work and no play, as the cliché goes, makes Jack a dull boy. At the end of the day, it is not the taapo-ed tutorials and the non-existent lecture notes that set us apart from the crowd. The trips to Bus-T at 2 AM, the all night bakar sessions, the foosball matches at UG – in some little way, they all mould our personalities, which is what we're here for in the first place.

"We must have X-Boxes and PS-3s in the UG Club", comments Sushant Singh, 2nd year, Mechanical Department. Though these sound too extravagant for a technical institute, as an IIT Bombay alumnus opined, "world-class students need world-class facilities." Though the installation of a Plasma screen TV in the UG Club reaffirms the administration's faith in this statement, there is still a long

way to go. For our dream institute we envision a recreation club that would not only serve as an indoor games arena but also as a platform for improved interaction between students and professors. This would include a 24-hour café serving healthy hygienic snacks.

The frequency of the visits to the insti by outsiders is disturbing all right (refer to the "Unsafe Campus" on page 4 for details), but the number of visits students are forced to make to Civil Lines is equally disturbing. It is only a question of time, we are told, before the insti becomes completely self-sufficient,

with a full-fledged provisions-cum-stationary store in the pipeline. Most students, though, seem to feel a greater need for a multiplex than a supermarket. Is the administration listening?

"It is to inform all the intimate of Ravindra Bhawan that cricket and footwall are not allowed on the Bhawan lawns", proclaims a notice whose shortcomings in grammar match those in its logic. Why the lawns were made in the first place, if not for sports, is a million dollar question.

By 2021, we hope that for sports, like most other things, 9 P.M marks the beginning, rather than the end of the show. "Something must be done to improve sports facilities within hostel premises. A system where people have to go to the sports complex every time they wish to play is neither practical nor convenient. Right now, every time we play, we do so with the fear of the resident warden at the back of our minds", laments an exasperated Ravindra intimate, sorry, inmate.

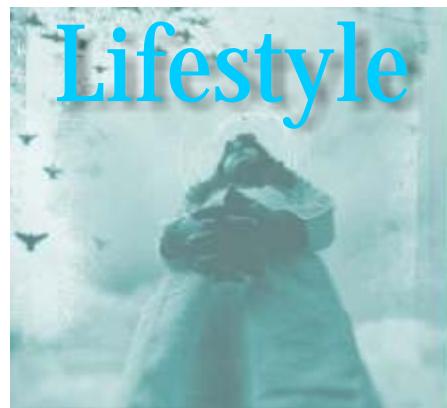
As far as the sports complex is concerned, it is not only its inconvenient timings that need revision. There is a lot that can be improved upon, such as the lighting of the hockey ground and the internal heating of the swimming pool,

thereby making it accessible throughout the year. "We are also considering a glass squash court and a mini-pool for children", reveals Dr. Roshan Lal, Staff Advisor, Sports Section.

It is not only the courts and the lawns that the students are hoping for changes in, though. "There is a need of change in mentality of the coaches and administration. Their focus remains on players who already have a strong background in a game. The newbies often feel neglected", points out Gajendra Singh, 3rd Year, Chemical Dept.

Ten years ago, all we had for a sports complex was the current LBS ground, minus the waiting rooms et al. Back then, the mention of a synthetic tennis court, never mind gymnasium and squash courts, must have sounded fancy. That being the case, Sumedh, 3rd year, Metallurgy Dept, can be forgiven for his part-hopeful, part-wishful demand for an archery range and a rugby pitch within the campus. Who knows what 2021 might have in store?

Ten years down the line, some jobless soul would either have the laugh of his life or appreciate us for our genius after reading this story. It is for his sake that we dream- to ensure that he doesn't have to endure any of the hurdles that we faced during our stay here. Dreaming alone does not get one anywhere, but it is, to a certain extent, essential in order to realize what one truly desires and give one's actions a sense of direction. More importantly, it makes us appreciate how far we are towards realizing our dreams. While interviewing students as part of this story, we could not help but notice that while there is still a lot of scope for improvement, most of our grievances are petty, and more often than not, corrigible. As summed up by Dr. S.P. Gupta, Head of the Electrical Dept, "to me, ours is already a dream institute. Efforts are necessary only to ensure that the insti is just as good tomorrow as it is today." Amen to that.



Business Gyan

Mutual Fundas

A mutual fund (MF) is a professionally managed form of collective investments that pools money from many investors and invests it in stocks, bonds, short term money market instruments and/or other securities. When you invest in a mutual fund, you entrust your money to a fund manager who then buys shares for you... or in simpler words investing in Mutual Funds is a simple seven step process:

1. Get hold of a rich man
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6. Give the money earned from stocks back to the rich men after deducting the pro's charges
7. The rich men grow richer!

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Though Watch Out has faith in the 1 ton bull outside the BSE building, we offer a friendly advice: *Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risk. Please read the offer document carefully before investing.*

Should IIT students go for CAT directly after graduation

Most of the people opting for management after technical studies are the ones who are left with management as the only future prospect. When a person enters an I.I.T., branches are not allocated according to one's choice rather they are given according to ranks. In the following four years, one is expected to develop an interest in the allocated branch, and in the cases where this does not happen the person changes his stream and turns towards management to start afresh. Another reason for the same might be that people from branches other than CS and ECE do not land handsome pay packages. Moreover research in India is not that lucrative and the GRE application process is fairly complicated as compared to the CAT. Besides, most people have no idea of their actual interest in 12th. On the other hand, for CAT just two months of preparation is enough to take one through. Adding to all these is the fact that research calls for motivation and the type of environment given to one in an IIT is not at par with the need. When the courses being taught are obsolete and outdated, how can students be expected to develop an interest in higher studies? Due to this, one studies a day before the exams just to notch up numbers and fails to develop a real interest in his field. That's why one diversifies to more lucrative and promising options..

FACE



Abhinav Sarangi
Meta-IV year

OFF



Guneet Kaur
EC-IV year

The choice of stream depends on the interest, the prospects offered by the stream, and most of all, by the ongoing trend in placements with the biggest flaw being in the system itself. Branch allocation should not be done according to the ranks rather all students should be taught common courses during the first year and then they should be given branches as per their performance. In the present scenario, management seems more lucrative than research financially. People don't go into core companies because of the low pay scales but they should keep in mind that instead of starting afresh in a new field they can perform much better in the area they have already worked for in four years. Research is just as lucrative. MBA is a two year course, but in the case of higher education one does not have a clear idea of the length of the journey. Research needs long term commitment, a vision and self motivation. Fewer people going into the technical field is also due to the lack of external motivation, which one can attain if one comes across people who have been successful in their fields of research. This really sparks one's interest in pursuing his stream. One should prefer Ph.D and higher studies because of the freedom to work academically or in a research-framework unhindered and thus one can be one's own boss.



*Amidst the dust written books and bullet-ridden corridors, there exists a **Cultural Council** that is almost forgotten. Watch Out probes into the needs, state and effectiveness of this council, entrusted with making some selected students complete and entertaining the others. This is what we found out in the mess survey.*

Should cultural council teams be sent to other colleges for participation?

No: 4.35%

Yes: 95.65%

Should there be inter-bhawan or intra-bhawan cultural competitions?

Yes: 93.05%

No: 6.95%

Vivek- Secretary Cultural council

There are problems such as which section will go and we don't have sufficient funds to send all so we end up sending none. This will improve from next year with Rs. 100 being deducted from every student's CCB account for cultural society and the support of the DOSW, so we can look forward to participation in other colleges from the next year.

Inter bhawan competitions should be encouraged and from next year it will be the responsibility of the cultural council to bear all the expenses. As far as the intra-bhawan competitions are concerned, the decision lies solely with the respective bhawans.

The selection criteria varies from section to section. There is no question of favouritism as the fourth years hardly know the first years. The sections already have targets, in case any section fails to perform then we take care that the funds are utilized somewhere else. For example: when Choro failed to perform last year we came up with a DJ.

Few sections have been provided with separate rooms. Moreover ,it is taken care that sections don't face any space related problems and they are not charged anything for using DOMS or auditoriums for practices. So an exclusive central facility is of no use.

Should there be a central facility for all sections?

No 14.91%

Yes 85.09%

Dr. P. Jha- Deputy Staff Advisor Cultural Council

While saying that students should seek participation in other colleges he added that the students generally want to go out for every performance which is not possible. The institute can only permit if the concerned event is of considerable importance. He said that funds are no longer a problem but they are not being utilized properly. He advised students to be articulate in order to have their genuine demands fulfilled.

Is the selection procedure for different sections fair?



Should every section be given specific targets to fulfill during each year?

Yes 88.46%

No 11.54%

Rishab Gupta- Dramatics Secy

Inter and intra-bhawan competition would help in identifying the hidden talent who somehow are usually not involved with the cultural sections. I am satisfied with our selection procedure. We don't involve politics at all and we also don't recruit people after their first year. This is because what's more important to us than talent is "compatibility" and "dedication" towards the group. There are no targets as such but we have a trend that we perform three plays a year.

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Other Landline	1.00	1.00	1.00/min	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.80
OUTSIDE CIRCLE(>50kms)							
Reliance Phone	0.50	0.30	1.20/3min	0.40	0.40	0.40	Free 0.40
Other Mobile	0.50	0.75	1.00/min	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.80
Other Landline	2.50	2.65	1.00/min	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.50
SMS							
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NEWS NOTES

DOMS Digest

Jigyasa

Department of Management Studies organized a National Paper Presentation Contest Jigyasa '08 on February 02, 2008. The topic for the presentation was 'Government Industry Academia Collaboration Model'. The event saw good participation with twelve teams making it to the finals which had Mr. Dharamveer, Financial Commissioner and Principal Secretary to Government of Haryana (Revenue and Disaster Management and Rehabilitation and Consolidation) as its chief guest. The contest ran through the entire day and was won by Payal Mehendidutta and Rajani from IRMA Ahmedabad. They were given a prize money of Rs. 40,000. Piyush Pant and Dr. Anupama, also from IRMA secured second position and a prize money of Rs. 20,000. Vineet and Shashank, from IIFT Delhi stood third and bagged a prize money of Rs. 10,000. Certificates were awarded to all the participants.

Spornado

Spornado, the sports meet between DOMS, IIT Roorkee and DMS, IIT Delhi, spanned over three days from Jan 11 to Jan 13. Eleven games were played including Squash, Basketball, Chess and Snooker. The competition was fierce with the two teams being evenly matched, Roorkee edged out winners in the general championship 175 to 160 points. The undoubtedly highlight of the event were the basketball matches which attracted sizeable crowds, Roorkee took the women's tie by just one point while in the men's tie Delhi scraped through by the same margin. With IIT Delhi hosting it next year and with the participation of Department of Management Studies, IIT Kanpur the event is set to expand. Let's hope it comes up with a more imaginative name.

Cul Soc Week

Swaranjali

The first cultural council event of the semester Swaranjali was held on 6th February in the newly renovated Convocation Hall. As expected, it started half an hour late with the arrival of the Director Prof. S.C. Saxena who was present as the chief guest. The performances were exceptional with the highlight being the vocals of Kamal (B.Tech-III, Civil) in the song "Lukka Chuppi". There was a melodious display of instrumental synchronization between Ashok (Meta-III) on the violin and Atulya (E&C-II) on the synthesizer in the Carnatic song 'Vatapi Ganapathi'. Pratikrit and Twarit ended the successful event on a high note with an almost professional rendition of Shankar Mahadevan's 'Breathless'. The event saw an enthusiastic audience turnout with very appreciative responses and audio section pulled off a good job, minimizing delays. The audience though appreciative was a little impatient rushing out just even before the name of the instrumentalists could be announced!

Dramatics

The latest offering of the dramatics section "Witness for the prosecution" was at best mediocre. Saved only by Agatha Christie's brilliant script, which dealt with the trial of a man accused of murder, the play was marred by atrocious dialogue delivery. Between the walrus like grunts of the Judge and the wailing of Sir Wilfrid Robarts we were left wondering if all that shouting was taking its toll. The silver lining in the cloud was provided by the acting exploits of Rahul Gupta (E&C 3rd yr) as Myers, Simrita Singh (E&C 2nd yr) as Romaine Helger and, to a certain extent, Jaspreet Singh Siddhu (Civil 4th yr) as Leonard Vole. Though the play attracted a massive crowd, it left a lot to be desired. Lets hope that passing out play lives to the high standards it has set in the past and that it's in Hindi.

NEWS NOTES

Campus Round-up

SISU

SI SU, a Norwegian percussion band established in 1997, comprising Thomas Nelson, Beonce Kanson and Marius Soebe, played in a SPIC-MACAY arranged event in the Convocation Hall. They played a variety of musical instruments, drums, bongos, gongs, and even balloons. The balloon act especially was very well appreciated by the crowd. The event ended with a question and answer session with the band members which gave the audience a unique insight into their beginnings and philosophies.

Cycle Race

The Himalayan Explorers Club organised their annual 36km cycle race early in the morning on 27th January. The race attracted decent participation with the students coming out despite the plummeting temperatures. A separate half race was also organised for the girls. Rahul Bahuguna (BTech. 3rd year Meta) won the boys race while Gargi (BTech. 3rd Year Civil) took the honours in girls' race.

Makar Fiesta

Spic-macay organized Makar Fiesta on 18th to 20th January 2008. The event saw average participation on the whole owing to the large contingent of IIT Roorkee Spic-macay members who outnumbered the outsiders. The event started with the quiz India on the 18th which saw a greater turnout as compared to the rest of the proceedings. On 19th morning kite flying was organized, followed by a Collage Making Competition with the theme 'Development Of India' and the day ended with a Rangoli Making Competition.

Clippings

Workshop

Workshop on Embedded Systems: Research and Development needs and HR trends, was held by the Department of Electrical Engineering on 9th January 2008. Professor Huss from the University of Darmstadt, Germany delivered a series of presentations on the topic while representatives from Cadence discussed the latest industry standards in the field. The Department of Electrical Engineering has decided to start a new course along with setting up a laboratory on Embedded Systems; the structure for the course is being decided in consultation with Prof. Huss.

Uttara

As a part of the Uttarakhand governments' e-Governance project the Uttarakhand Portal, Uttara is being managed by the Electrical Engineering Department with Professor H. K. Verma presently in charge of the Portal activities. The website contains information on various cities in the state and also contains comprehensive statistical data of the state. It provides facilities for filling various forms online and contains links for university results and agricultural loans among other things.

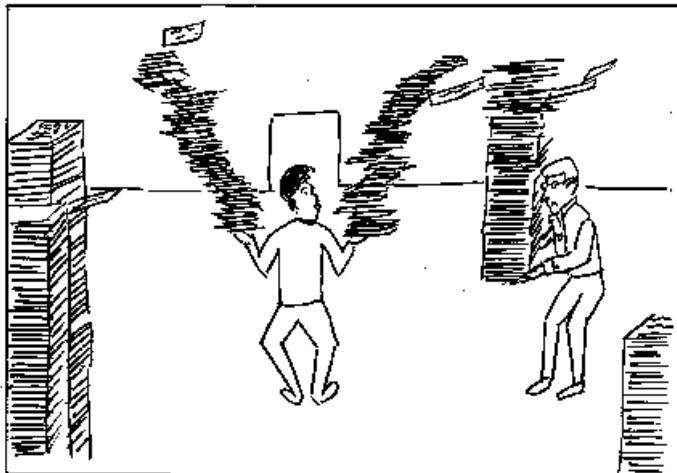
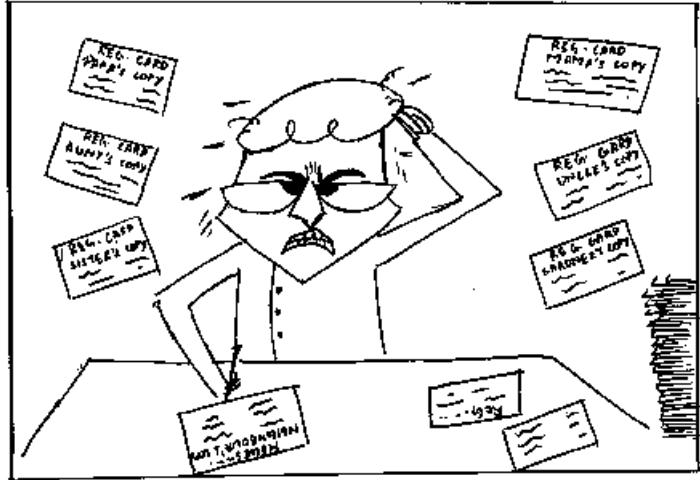
TBLS

The library administrators in what can only be described as a momentary lapse in reason decided to ditch the old lottery system for TBLS and replace it with a first come first serve policy. This lead to students lining up well before the scheduled start of their allotment in the Roorkee equivalent of a Star Wars release. The new system displayed no real advantage over the old lottery system.

WHAT'S ON THE CARDS?

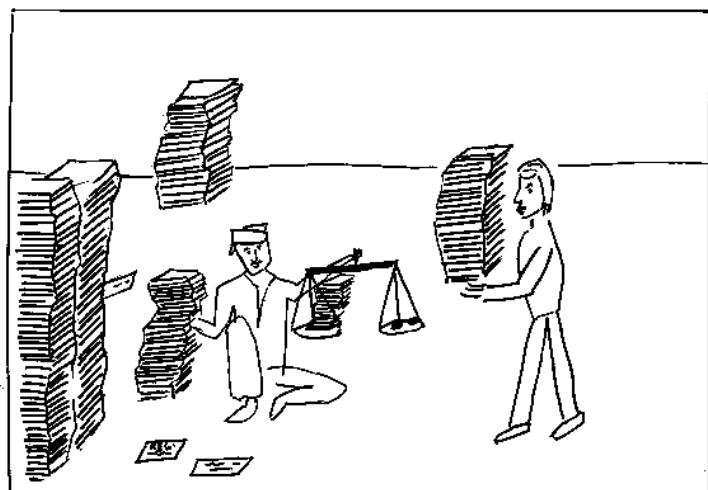
The new sem began with the routine room-unlocking and trunk-unloading ritual. After ensuring that your back was not broken and you were not covered with cobwebs, you felt very happy. Then off you trotted to your department for registration right after that. And then you registered, and registered, and registered....

Baa baa black sheep, have you any cards?
Yes sir, yes sir, coz we are retard.
One for the master, one for his dame,
Six registration cards, can it get more lame?



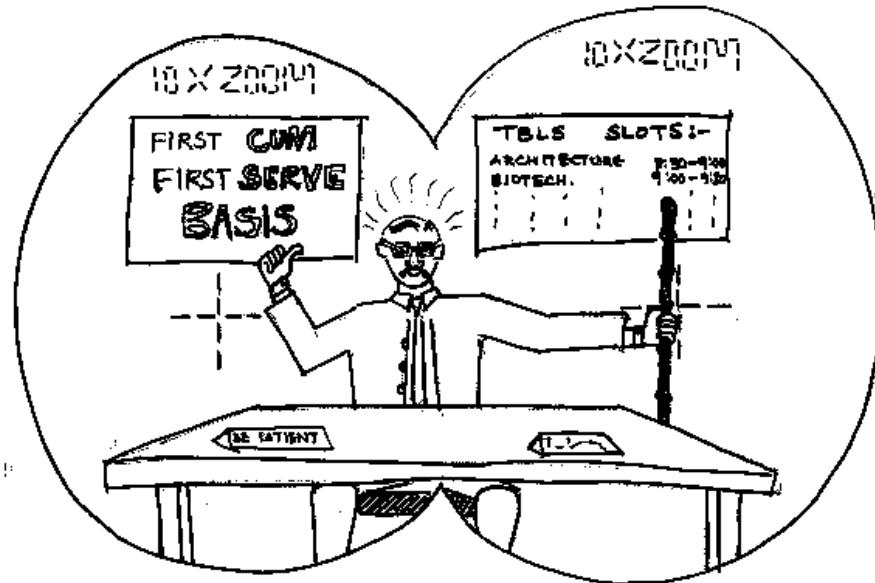
The E&C tower faced some stiff competition this sem for the place of the highest structure in the insti. Reliable sources suggest that over a hundred stacks of registration forms beat it to the coveted crown.

Not everyone was unhappy with the new and improved(?) registration process, though. The raddiwallah made a kill this winter and inexplicably vanished from the face of the earth. (He was last spotted in a Ferrari in Beverly Hills.)

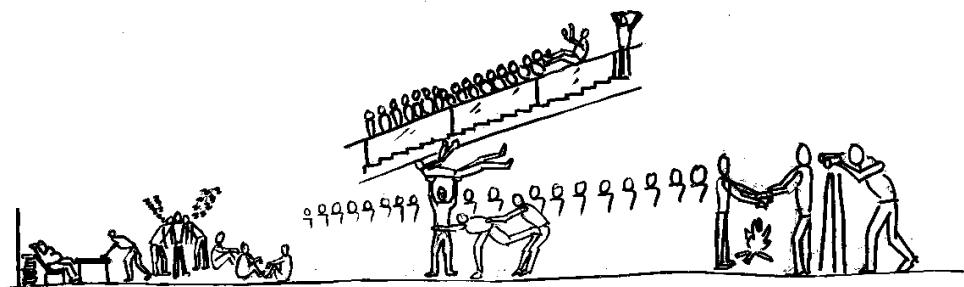


QUE-KI GHISU BHI KABHI GABRU

Is this what they meant by ‘mind your p(ee)’s and q’s’? Is this what it takes to get that book you’re never going to touch for the rest of the sem? Is this what they meant by ‘going the extra mile’ for better grades? I might as well settle for another *chaggi* after all...



Target in sight. Taking position. Rendezvous in 142878127 seconds.



Is it SB’s Bhawan Day? Is it the railway reservation counter?
No, it’s TBLS (Terribly Boring Library Service?)

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MOSTLY HARMLESS

05-01-08 - I wake up and find it too cold to attend a class. I sit down and wonder 'Where's Global Warming?' and 'What's the point of attending the class anyway?' After braving the sub – zero, I'd reach class too tired to remain awake. Might try to cozy up to a chick but am wary of any close encounters of the 'smelly kind' with her 'intoxicated' lover. No lullaby ever sounded sweeter than the Profs monotone. Even the messed up grades of last semester can't mess my sleep. As I fall back to sleep, I wonder if all this is really necessary to attain the elusive 75% attendance mark....Proxy, anyone?!

17-01-08 - "Dude, where's my phone?" My friend came crying up to me, he had just lost his phone. He just wanted to make a call to the 'Care-center guy' in order to terminate his account. I, being very helpful, gladly offered my phone for the noble cause.

Soon, he was requesting the Service Center Personnel to terminate his account. A very hostile fellow at the other end resulted in a rude conversation ending in verbal blows. Having failed in his attempt, he returned my phone saying-*Yaar thoda sa problem ho gaya... I fought with the Care Center guy; The guy seemed really peeved but you don't worry too much about it though...*

The next day, an SMS woke me up - 'You have subscribed for news updates; Rs30 have been deducted from your balance'. Revenge is sweet, huh!



03-02-08 - All it takes is a night of bakar dedicated to ghost stories to clear all your misconceptions about the brave soul that you are. There I was; stuck with a group of friends who were making full use of the opportunity to scare the living daylights out of me, the darkness shrouded Mussourie and all living souls lay asleep as snug as a bug in a rug. It was snowing outside, and light was creeping into the room from a crack in the wall. My friends recounted their own and their acquaintances' encounters of the third kind with residents of the other side. And then there were times when everybody went silent altogether. It is in these times that you realize how prone you are to wetting your pants, but thank God, we did a night-out, or else I would probably have left my mark on yet another hotel bed!

12-02-08 - Sitting on the last bench as usual, I somehow managed to pass half the lecture unable to even comprehend a single word. The professor had warned me about my frequent naps during his class. I was in a precarious situation, half awake, half asleep hiding behind a hefty *haddu*. And then it happened; I fell asleep.

What followed was total mayhem. I was running around, hunting wild boars and chopping off wood. Then I turned into everything from archers to pike men, from sheep to wolves! Weird things came next I was driving a Lamborghini with Knights in Hot Pursuit. I killed and I died over and over in an AoE Arena.



Soon, I was crouching behind the wall like a CS terrorist, ready to infiltrate de_Fort SB. Surreptitiously moving, exercising every caution to keep my existence secret; in a dire attempt to meet my Lady Love. Just when I thought I'd make it, the counter-terrorist forces (watchmen) charged in. I felt my head banging, my body quaking as the SB watchmen caught me and dragged me back. Darkness engulfed me and suddenly I heard these words "Roll No. 21, get out of my class!"

Wait a minute, Class? Get out? As I complied, I thought regretfully, "Chaos is bad, man!"

CHIRUNJI LAL CONSPIRACYWALA™

In this fast growing world, there are two kinds of people – those who are led and those who lead. Here, Chiraunji unearths a story of two ambitious people who would do anything in order to reach the highest echelons of society. A firebrand leader making it to the news all the time, but for all the wrong reasons– Raj Thackeray. And an 'actress' in Bollywood, a firebrand in her own right, by the name of Rakhi Sawant. Well, what could these two people have in common? There are many answers to this– Raj's tongue was always wagging while Rakhi sent tongues wagging. And also- both were ambitious (though the latter didn't realize that she was till Raj told her). While Raj Thackeray wanted the throne of Shiv Sena, the latter's dream fell nothing short of usurping the stardom of Bollywood from the Bachchans.

This is where Raj showed his brilliance- Rakhi was the crowd-puller where Raj would ask for votes and vehemently bash up the ruling Bachchan clan to return the favour. The crowds soon became more as the clothes lessened and Raj began to count his votes. Ash became the first victim of Raj's ire and soon all his supporters were burning effigies and clamouring for a girl's school to be opened in Mumbai. All would have gone well and the Bachchans would have been successfully evacuated to UP had it not been for a dashing Bhojpuri hunk, Ravi Kisan, who convinced Rakhi that the Bihari crowds would appreciate her 'skills' better. This was when Ravi unleashed his most destructive piece of 'information':

It was day of the final of Nach Baliye 3. Raj Thackeray's supporters had been instructed to cut off the voting lines for the Filmfare Best Actor Award in which Amitabh was a strong contender. Oops! Wrong lines... And Rakhi's dreams of winning the championship were destroyed. The angry Sawant packed her dancing shoes and a fistful of clothes (more than she ever wanted) and left for Bihar. And thus were shattered Raj's dreams of becoming CM. The irate Maratha took out his wrath on Rakhi's prospective audience, the Biharis. His supporters rushed to do his bidding and even the tragic death of Dharrao ensued as his name was not 'Maratha' enough. And thus is the plot behind the recent shocking tale. What might happen in the future is unknown. But as far as the present is concerned, nothing ever escapes the eyes of Chiraunjil Conspiracywala.

Ever wished you had a sympathetic ear to pour your cup of woes in. Worry no more, Agony Aunt is here. From classes to sports to your non-existent love life, Agony Aunt's advice is golden. Some of us have already received it. Read on...



Agony Aunt ra, It has been three years in the college and I still don't have a girlfriend. What should I do?

-Ever Reddy

Dear Ever Reddy, your situation is similar to almost everyone here. I will give you the same advice that I gave to all the boys you now see happily walking hand in hand. Go for guys. Guys are normally much more compromising in choosing who they go out with. Moreover there is a wide range for you to choose from. Take your pick. Wish you a 'happy' future.

Hey Agony Aunt, how you doin'!!! I am really excited about the SB Bhawan day, but I just can't manage a pass. What should I do?

-Ram DESPande

Dear DESPy, things aren't always as beautiful as they seem from a distance.

Dear Agony Aunt, I have had 5 interviews and still haven't got placed yet. What should I do?

-The Reserved Candidate

Dear Mr. Reserved, you might be great, 'simply great' but stay away from the topics such as zips of pants and management of marriages in interviews. And obviously, betraying the Purple Cow is bound to have some repercussions (more info on page 2).

Dear Agony Aunt, my CG reduced by 0.3 and my parents are telling me to quit engineering. They call me a failure at everything from academics to my love life to my weight. Ass-istance required.

-The Bulk

Dear Bulk, abandon your self-made diet plans and stop going to jogs with dogs. I can understand your parents' concern about you being single but you have to tell them that such personality disorders are common among the ghissus here. Don't worry, it's just a p-ass-ing phase.

Dear Agony Aunt, why isn't there a PG's club like the UG one?

-Mutt-key

Pyaari Behena, humaari umar mein itna khelna-kudna sehat ke liye theek nahiin.

Ms. Agony, I have an IQ of over 200, I've got a perfect GRE score and have cracked CAT. I have also got a respectable job offer from a leading company. I'm confused over what I should choose. Your assistance would be appreciated.

**-Yours sincerely,
The President**

Mr. President, are you single?

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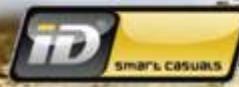
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