

Editorial

All of us welcome every new step that better our being. With a hope that it adds spice to our lives, we have come up with a newsletter that intends to be the silhouette of the resplendent life on campus against academic chores. It facilitates us with yet another platform to unleash our energies. It is the reverberation of dynamism. 'Echoes' is a call to mind.

Putting forward the newsletter has not been a swashbuckling tale of adventure on high seas for us. Three semesters ago, we set ourselves towards bringing out a magazine for our institute. We gave the magazine a shape but could not get it in the print. The Student Parliament proved a snorkel when we were under deep water, giving us a stertorous, life- saving gasp. Then, the idea of a newsletter grew up as saxifrage among shale of prosy thinking.

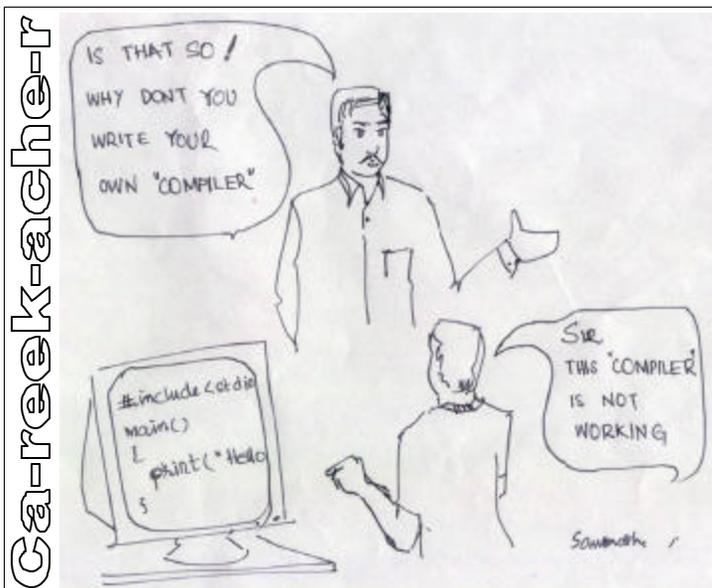
Bound to the duty of providing a vent for subdued minds, every issue will feature an expression about one's intense emotions. It is an opportunity to let one's feelings ooze out onto this serviette.

Suggestions and messages constitute our 'Be Heard' column – a pulpit for voicing your thoughts.

Apart from serving news and other customary articles, some unusual columns that we have introduced mark the uniqueness of our newsletter. It features an opinion poll and 'Seven Spices' to season your life. Besides, we shall dish out the happenings on campus, dressing done with snapshots, for you to savor. We hope you find these engrossing.

This is an invitation to all of you to contribute to and relish a new endeavor. After all, one would cherish the efforts poured into the nascence of forever 'Echoes'.

Prashant Kashyap



Campus Rumpus

Bye bye, dear seniors. July 16th, 2002 will go down in the annals of IIT's history. The first convocation of our institute, held at Shilpakala Vedika, was honored with the presence of our Chief Minister, N. Chandrababu Naidu as the Chief Guest and Dr. Chidambaram as the Chief Speaker.

A New Abode for Saraswathi. Great news for the bookworms! The new double-storied library, centrally air-conditioned with an area of 16,000 square feet, has the ground floor dedicated to books while the first floor constitutes the journals section and a set of terminals with a dedicated internet line. This educational repository should commission by the end of this month.

New Faculty. Our faculty will be augmented by two new faculty members shortly - Dr. Abhijeet Mitra from Christ Church College, Kanpur, in the field of Bio-Informatics and Dr. Pradeep Kumar Ramancharla from Megure Laboratory, Tokyo in the Building Science Research area. A hearty welcome to both of them from IIIT.

Clean and Green IIIT. Right from its inception, IIIT has always dreamed of being a verdant institute. The extent to which our faculty and some students went, and the pain that they took to save two trees is indeed heart-warming. This time our environment-conscious institute has gone one step further. A plan for planting 3000 saplings is underway and, as is visible, around 800 of them have been planted. Also, the sudden surge in the number of garbage bins around the campus is indicative of the measures being taken in this direction. One thing that is still ironical however, is the use of plastic cups for tea and coffee in an institute that believes in recycling and reducing environmental pollution. Food for thought, eh?

The Industry is finally in. The Herculean task of having the industry interact with the campus actively is in progress, and shows promising results. Apart from the MoU with Portal Player for a VLSI lab, we have also signed an agreement with APCPDC Ltd. for projects.

A New Page in the Chapter of Placements The placement committees of the UG and PG batches, under the guidance of our newly appointed placement officer, Dr. Ranjani Ram, have dispatched the first set of CDs and brochures to 135 companies on July 25th, soon to be followed by a second set going out to more companies. Kudos to them!!!

Fettered or fined! The mess has been made compulsory for the students with effect from the 1st August. A fine of Rs. 3 for each meal and Rs. 2 for each breakfast will be levied on cancellations beyond the stipulated threshold of 12 meals. Watch out for these unforeseen expenses from your pocket.

Expressionist of the Month

Arjun Kumar, GDIT 2k1

Life brings so many things with it. Little did I realize that success and loneliness would come as a package deal for me. I am all alone in this battle with life which ultimately death would win. I am not being pessimistic, nor am I talking negative. I am being pragmatic.

Time flies by so rapidly that it is difficult to figure out what really happened. The mornings, the evenings, the days, the weeks, the months, all come and go as a routine.

Talking about time, it can change anything. Relationships die and repulsion is born. Relationships have lost their meaning. The business of life leaves very little room for emotions. Take for instance, the feelings that used to form a bond between a teacher and a student. There is no such strong attachment today. We study to score well in all the subjects that are being taught. Teachers have to complete their own syllabus for exams. Who cares whether all of us are coping with the stress that we have been subjected to for the first time in our lives? There is no Ekalavya in us, there is no Dronacharya. Some of us may argue that times have changed. Yes, we are living in a new era but we are still humans. We still have feelings.

Life has gone a full circle for me already. As a child, I enjoyed all the attention and love. As I grew up, I found myself being deprived of the love that I thought was for the person in me. Well, the love was for the kid who brought them happiness and joy. As a person I was a nobody. After I secured a rank in this institute, people started treating me with the same love and affection that I was habituated to. I am considered the future of my family. My siblings are polite with me. There is no objection to anything I say. Quite a sea change from earlier times when my brothers used to pounce on me for little mistakes that I made. Today I am allowed to commit big blunders.

Has success done me any good? Have I been successful enough as a human being? Has my life improved, to ask the least?

[An English translation of his Hindi poem, "Ugte Suraj ka Akelapan"]

Scribble Pad

*"A suburb is connected
to a city by a traffic jam."*

Seven Spices*To Season Your Life***Seven ways to interact with seniors**

1. Smile, a pleasant smile, not mocking or to yourself, but a pleasant and radiant one.
2. Ask questions, don't interrogate.
3. Humor your seniors, but don't suck up.
4. Be witty, but don't overdo it else you'll be a smart aleck.
5. Talk to them, don't be reserved and cooped up.
6. Be honest, but don't go overboard.
7. Maintain composure, without being arrogant.

Techie Tips

1. To encrypt a file (which cannot be read by even the root@localhost), type

```
vim -x filename.
```

It will ask for an encryption password. The file cannot be read without that password.

-contributed by Santosh Narayana

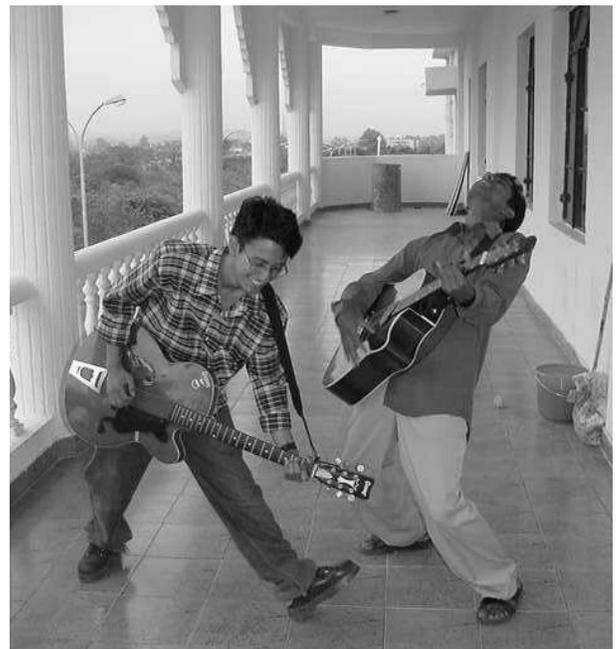
2. To make tab key the completion character for dos prompt in windows, run "regedit". Follow this path in registry

```
My Computer\HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\  
Microsoft\command processor
```

Set the value of "Completion Character" to '9' (decimal value).

Logoff and logon back again.

-contributed by Karandeep Singh Anand

Photo of the Month

MEET YOUR PROFESSOR

Dear members of IIIT, meet **Dr. Rajeev Sangal**, the director of our institute. Dr. Sangal holds a Ph. D. from the University of Pennsylvania and has been a professor at IIT Kanpur for several years. So here's your chance to know all about this inspirational role model.



Q. You had several areas to choose from when you completed your PhD in A.I. What motivated you to go to N.L.P.?

A. Because of the major applications in the Indian scenario I wanted to do things that were needed in India.

Q. How were your college days? How do you contrast it with the present scenario?

A. Unlike today, we had activities all the time. We did everything together – studies, extra-curricular events. If the situation seems to be different today, it's because it's either studies or activities exclusively. The right kinds of traditions have not evolved here. Some thought must be given to evolving a good student tradition here.

Q. Given the chance to be born again, whom would you like to be born as?

A. Myself.

Q. For me, life means ...

A. Life is work with enjoyment.

Q. Any particular person who influenced you or your work?

A. Mahatma Gandhi and Karl Marx , since both believed in the ability to impact society and influence it positively.

Q. What is the secret of your success?

A. I think I am not successful. There is still so much to be done.

Q. What is your notion of a successful student of IIIT?

A. A student who imbibes not just the factual information of his discipline and study but also has an appreciation for art and with a desire to contribute to the betterment of the society around him.

Personal Favorites:

- Dish : Indian cuisine
- Music: Hindustani Classical - Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, Pandit Jasraj.
- Books/Authors: The range is very wide. I like the stories of Munshi Premchand as well as the fiction of Isaac Asimov.

[Interviewed by Ravikiran & OVL Kiran]

Plumes of Poetry**DESERVING AND DE-SEVERING**

The dawn lit the blooming garden.
The roses smiled, warm and serene
Past wheezed the river flowing
turbulent, yet sanguine.

"Oh Recess", sighed the unfinished dreams.
'Ascendum' - extols the cuckoo singing.
Why the ambivalence of dappled shadows.
Without heed, and a child starts walking.

'Welcome' - greets the chirping squirrels.
Drinking beauty, losing innocence.
The child plucks a white pure lily.
Breathing fragrance, blinded by avarice.

Devoid of sprite, the flower dies.
The perplexed child, fighting the strife within.
The rape of innocent mind.
Why turn it cold, to a cynic.

When comes the soothing calm.
To impart wisdom, to the child savant.
When comes the leading nymph.
To take him to Utopia, without want.

[A prize winning poem at The Poetry Contest,
Splash 2002, by V. Kiran Babu]

THE ROGUE'S WAY TO DESTRUCTION

Thunder struck him when stealing
with a strange kind of feeling
Wanted to stop for a while
But he had to cross the mile
The human in him became cynical
But his avarice let him be whimsical
Unknown to him was such ambivalence
But being venal was his preference
The rogue extolled his act
But with his heart he had to make a pact
He was torn with strife
And dreamt of an Utopian life
So sanguine was his wish
For a great world did he fish
With no passion, with no fanatics,
But filled with eclectics
With no rape, with no guilt
As safe as a baby's quilt
Where the nymph's danced and sang
And bells of joy rang...
He was awoken by the police
And shown the price for malice.

-- K.R. Aishwarya

City Capers

Hi folks,

It is of common observance that a typical youngster survives on the five basic elements- food, clothing, music, movies and sports. City Capers sprouts from an attempt to save these souls of all the trouble; to keep them updated on the spiciest food joints and the trendiest clothes stores, the most exhaustive music domains and the latest money-spinners. Hey, hey, we aren't done yet. If you want to know who is racing whom in the Grand Prix or which celebrity is giving us a visit, you now know where to look, don't you?

This month we have the Benetton season sale in Banjara Hills which gives upto 50% off on select clothes. Also, the shoe segment is blessed with a 50% Anniversary sale at Stampede, Begumpet, exclusively for the ladies.

Good new for the movie-maniacs. 'The Scorpion King', starring WWF superstar The Rock, is finally out and is playing in some of the best movie theatres in the city. And if you pride yourself on your indefatigability, try standing in those unending queues all over the city to watch our local hero, Chiranjeevi. 'Indra' has arrived, my friends; and it's taken Hyderabad by storm.

Moreover, while you are on this freak spree, take a dig at the *Paneer Shahi Kurma* at Olive Garden (a stone's throw from Cyber Towers), or the lip-smacking *Tandoori* at Vindhu, Lingampally. They are a treat not just to your taste buds but also to your eyes.

The revival of 'Chandini', the quintessential folk music, made popular by the candle-lighting ceremony at the farewell is the latest rage in the music-lover community.

Most essentially, we need to brace ourselves for the arrival of the fresh batches of students. May they be greeted with the warmest hearts and the friendliest souls.

A parting advice to all the rock-fans – there's a video of 'The Wall' by Pink Floyd doing the rounds. Make sure you get your string-happy hands on it.

Prashanth Varma,
Let There Be More Light

Vox Populi

(The Public Opinion Poll)

Most talked about girl in the Boys Hostel – Mukta Prasad

Most sought after boy in the Girls Hostel – Saurabh Goyal

Most hardworking student – R. Deepak

Girl with the cleanest room – K. Deepthi

(Poll conducted by Shankar Asees Patra)

Be Heard

This goes for all the Quakers of IIT...

Quake 3 Arena - not just a game but a passion. Competition, rivalry, excitement, happiness, frustration, anger, disappointment...

Everything packed in about 1GB of hard-disk space. Cheers to all those who are the masters of this 3D world.

- PagalZombie (no longer Manas Saran)

To all

Someone teach me Java

M.Siva suman

Hello all

Happy Friendship Day

Hoping to meet new people and make more friends.

Shankar

(Get SAPPed)

Dear DVD

Happy Birthday

Gdit 2k1

Quakers...

***Quit Playing,
The Lord is Here***

Arunabh

(Lord of Quake)

Contact Us:

To be the expressionist putting forth his views,
To contribute your opinion or to the news,
To wish people, to vent out problems,
To submit articles and lovely poems,

All you need to do,
Is to send a mail to,
mag@gdit.iit.net,

And your need will be met.