

March 2011

Iron Times

The Official Publication of the Carleton Student Engineering Society

BRIEFS

Elections Results

The CSES elections are over, come meet your new council. Now it's time to have a whole bunch more elections for stream societies. There are still 2 unfilled council positions: CEE rep and SCE rep, please see current council members for more information about these positions.

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FYIC

Friday January 28th, I went to the First Year Integration Conference at the University of Guelph. It was a very interesting experience to say the least. I will first talk about speakers and information, then end on a fun note.

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For Those Who Hate Cabs

For those who like to go out on weekends, and have fun, you probably have taken a cab home. Chances you've taken a cab more than once. But in this article, I have a different mode of transportation for your consideration. Walking.

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GNCTR

"Hey Bro, eat some corn nuts bro!" or "Waaaaaaaah!" are just some of the inside jokes that the GNCTR crew brought back with them from Edmonton, Alberta. If you ask anyone who has ever gone to this event before, they will tell you that it's the time of your life and not something to miss.

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Carleton Engineers Aren't Loud Enough



Warning: This newspaper may contain offensive material and should not be read by people who are easily offended. All opinions expressed within The Iron Times are solely those of the writers and contributors, and do not reflect the views of CSES unless indicated otherwise. This paper is jestful and satirical in nature and is not intended to be malicious in any manner.

EXEC REPORTS



President

Suzanne "Ducktub" Swaine
- AERO VI -

Wow, there's been a lot going on over the last month and even more that will be happening in the last few weeks at school. We've got the AGM (constitutional to boot!) where you can come out and hear about how CSES has been working behind the scenes this year, meet your new executive and have your say in CSES finances, events, and initiatives for the new year. Can't go? Remember to proxy your vote to a friend to make sure your voice is heard. Reflections is also coming up and I expect to see all of you out partying the night away. The event is for everyone but is focused on honouring the grads for all their hard work. There will also be awards for involved people, awesome people, the greatest profs, and more! Time is running down for this year, I'm sad to say I didn't complete everything I hoped to this year but I think we made steps forward this year and I'd like to thank all my exec for all the work they've put in this year and my council for being there every step of the way.



VP Services

Kristen "Hop Along" Van Den Tillaart
- MECH IV -

I hope everybody survived midterms, I sure didn't. So I'm speaking to you beyond the midterm grave. Nothing much has been happening, if you look up at the monitor at Leo's you will see weekly updates passing through the computer. I am currently in the process of updating the Equipment Loan Program to get an HD video camera and a better digital camera. Leo's and SGRC are running very smoothly. The SGRC card reader is underway and cannot be installed until the summer, but come summer it will be done ASAP. If you haven't been in the office, there are new floors that look pretty spiffy and also gorgeous council members hard at work. With exams slowly approaching remember the SGRC can be booked at <http://sgrc.ensoc.org/> for your study group needs.



VP External

Kevin "Assbeard" Atkins
- AERO II -

Charity LAN. You want to come right? Great. Come, because I want you to. All proceeds go to charity. Do you like helping little children at CHEO? Do you like getting stamps in your passport for this joint CSES+Flightsuit event? I think you do, so you should come and help the little children! On a more serious note, the Professional Engineers of Ontario (PEO) and Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) are coming for an information night on March 16th at 6:00pm. Come out and learn about the professional licensing and advocacy bodies of Ontario.



VP Internal

Jamie "Invisible Man" Baressi
- SYSC III -

So for those of you who are graduating, it's almost done! You get your rings soon (YAY!) and your pewter mugs at Reflections (Double YAY!). You may have seen the posters up for elections, so you should know the candidates and their tag lines and what their goals are for the upcoming year. That is their commitment to you for the next year, so cast your votes March 2nd to 4th! Soon you will have chosen your new executive and council for 2011-2012 based on what they want to do for you.

The AGM is coming up on the 23rd of March at 6 PM, location to be made available once it is finalized. Come out and see your current council wrap up the year, the election results, and ratify the new council. This one is extra important to come out to, it will also be called as a Constitutional Meeting, so there will be the chance to make adjustments to CSES's major governing document, the Constitution (or, as some of you may know it, Bylaw 1). I hope to see you all there.



VP Academic

Josh "Canadian Pie" Coulbeck
- ELEC IV -

I'd like to thank everyone who bought or dropped off a book for this term's textbook trade. The trade went well, 25 books were sold and some donated books were sold making about \$40 for charity. National Engineering Week (NEW) was March 2nd to 4th. We made a Rube Goldberg Machine this year, a link will be posted in an upcoming announce email. If you don't know what a Rube Goldberg Machine is, I recommend google-ing it, specifically the music video This Too Shall Pass by Ok Go. Pi day is coming up on March 14 and we will be taking donations to go to CHEO for you to pie people. The end of the semester is getting close so don't forget to take advantage of the services CSES offers like the textbook library, exam library and the study lounge. These are great tools CSES offers to help you succeed here at Carleton.



VP Pubs

Kaitlyn "Topless" Stockermans
- CIVE IV -

During fabulous February I managed to update the News Feed on the website, finish up my transition report, publish an Iron Times issue, attend my office hours and exec/council meetings on top of all that other stuff I volunteered for. Oh wait, assignments FFUUUUU-

Stay tuned for the final installment of ... Paint Drying!!



VP Finance

Jordan "Crack" Briggs
- AERO IV -

So it's March now, and you know what that means....it's time to watch in agony as one by one your March Madness picks get knocked out of your bracket pool, and you lose dollars. Thankfully, I can assure you that CSES does not gamble it's monies in such petty endeavours; we instead smartly reinvest it in you guys! As you are probably aware, the Winter Student Group Funding process has recently come to a close and the results are as follows: \$6,948.84 in funding was given to 19 different groups and projects. We had initially budgeted for only \$6,000 for SGF this term, but thanks to some re-arranging of the budget we ended up being able to add nearly \$1000 to the pot and better serve the CSES community. Another huge thank you goes out to my SGF Director Maurice Weir, for his hard work and dedication, and ability to put up with me. Dude, you're a champ!

The end of the year and my term as VP Finance is drawing close, but there is still much work to be done (like taxes...yay!) I would also like to congratulate my Treasury Director, Emily LeMay on her being elected our VP Finance for next year. I will soon begin the transitioning process, and make sure that she's ready to take the reins come the end of the school year. As motioned at the last GM, I am also looking into getting a financial audit done for this fiscal year, which was thought to be an excellent way to both improve our financial transparency and re-assure our membership of our financial stewardship. We just want people to know that unlike certain other nameless student-run associations on campus; we've got it together and have nothing to hide. So with that, enjoy the rest of the year and Happy St. Patty's Day!



VP Social

Steph "Calamity Jane" Seemel
- SREE III -

Hey All!

It's March!!! I hope you all didn't get destroyed by midterms and that your exam schedules are reasonable! Speaking of exams...why not have one last party fun time blow off steam night before your exams? If you agree, you should be buying a ticket to Reflections! Its the graduation celebration formal dinner and awards night! This is an annual event where we celebrate that another gang of students has successfully survived Engineering. We also give out a number of awards to non graduating students, watch out! You may have been nominated for one! In other news, keep an eye out for announcements about the Winter Volunteer Appreciation Party. If you have done any volunteering this year you should come out and get appreciated!

I wish you a Merry March and a Happy Exam Season!



The Iron Times is a free publication of the Carleton Student Engineering Society.

Submissions are welcome from articles to photos, from news to entertainment to opin-

ions, and everything in between. Anyone may send their submissions, complaints, questions and concerns to irontimes@cses.carleton.ca

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Nolan Hunder

Thanks to all the writers that contributed.

EDITORS

Kristen Jerabek
Matt Molkoski
Gilles Messier
Caleigh Rutledge
Josh Newman

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ELECTION RESULTS



President

Jamie "Invisible Man" Baressi
- SYSC III -



VP Internal

Kevin "Assbeard" Atkins
- AERO II -

Mad Libs

Entering into _____ can be a very _____
(subject) (adjective)
business. First you must _____ what _____ you
(verb) (noun)
wish to _____ for. Now that you _____ what to aim for,
(verb) (verb)
you must _____ the competition, and more importantly
(verb)
know your voters. Do they pay _____, what would
(subset of people) (noun)
they like to see _____, and how strong are their _____.
(past tense verb) (plural noun)
Now we get to the _____ part, political spin. No politi-
(adjective)
cian ever got _____ for being _____, they got elected
(past tense verb) (personality trait)
for appearing to be _____. What is _____ is not im-
(same personality trait) (state of being)
portant what is _____ and _____ is. Which
(state of being) (state of being)
brings us to lesson #2: How to _____ your opponent.
(malicious action, verb)
A _____ politician doesn't leave things to _____, you
(adjective) (verb)
must eliminate the _____ to ensure your victory.
(subset of people)
Now that you have the _____ of the voters and
(noun)
no competition as a _____, there is only one thing left:
(noun)
The inside man, watch your _____ as there are those
(body part)
who will gladly take your _____ at a moment's notice.
(noun)
Remember: this is how _____ does it, good luck!
(Famous Politician).



VP Finance

Emily "Lap Jumper" Lemay
- BIOM II -



VP External

Kristen "Dorothy" Jerabek
- CIVE I -



VP Academic

Matt "Soaker" Molkoski
- ELEC II -



VP Pubs

Caleigh "Paperbag Princess" Rutledge
- ENVE II -



VP Social

Erik "Caulk Tease" Willis
- AERO III -



VP Services

Kristen "Hop Along" Van Den Tillaart
- MECH IV -



MAE Rep

Robbie "Qubit" Zuk
- AERO III -



DOE Rep

Owen "Burrs" Marsh
- ELEC II -

WE VIEW MACHINERY FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE



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NEWS

Professional Engineers Ontario

Alexa "Cuddle Slut" Boch
- ELEC II -

Recently our VP External Kevin Atkins reminded me that I was supposed to have written an article about the PEO SC quite some time ago. (I believe I am two months overdue. Shameful!) Alas, I have been quite busy with schoolwork and had completely forgotten about this article.

One of the article requirements, as Kevin politely reminded me, was to share information from the conference with my fellow students that is relevant to their pursuit of an engineering degree. As this conference as a whole was made up of so many events, I had a difficult time picking a single topic. Fortunately, I believe I have found the perfect words of wisdom to share with my fellow engineers:

Everything can and will change.

Oddly enough, these five words were the focus of many of the presentations during the conference. We had several speakers who had received an engineering degree and were now on an entirely different career path, such as teaching and government politics. The message from these presentations was very clear: just because we are focusing on getting an engineering degree right now does not mean that our future is set in stone. There are events that will happen in the future that will shape our decisions, and these decisions will

lead us to places we had never dreamed of. The important thing is that we can use the skills we have learned in engineering in the future. Problem solving skills are very important for any situation, whether we are working as engineers or not.

Of course, this point of view was only one end of the spectrum for the conference. On the other end of the spectrum, many guest speakers talked about the benefit of being an engineer and receiving our PEO licence. Evidently, the message was the same: we always have choices. We can choose to pursue our masters or PhD. We can choose to orient our work to help protect the environment and poorer countries. We can choose to pursue our PEO licence. We can choose to become an entrepreneur and start our own engineering business. These were all topics mentioned in the guest presentations, and although they were all very different, they all simplified down to one thing: we have choices, and it is up to us to choose wisely.

Although I value meeting other students from other schools and learning about different topics from guest speakers, I value the message this conference presented even more. We are capable of making choices that will bring about change, and change is always an adventure. Choosing to study engineering is just the beginning of our great adventure.

Conference Shenanigans

Kelly "Tongue Master" Barker
- BIOM II -

The Professional Engineers of Ontario – Student Conference (PEO-SC) was most definitely an eventful weekend, to say the least! It started as a two car road trip driving to Toronto on a beautiful Friday morning. Although, seeing as the cars were being driven by guys, they had to take their own separate ways there, just to prove they could do it on their own. The car I was in (Josh, Alexa and myself) decided to drive on the 401, whereas the other car (Kevin, Matt and Luis) took some back roads – later to find the only reason for this was to stop at a brewery in Perth!!

So, there we were driving on the 401, when we hit construction and we were stopped. It didn't seem like the traffic would ever let up any time soon, but we had music so we were just chilling, enjoying the nice weather. We had left in plenty of time, anticipating some slow downs, so we weren't worried about being late... that is until we heard CLUNK CLUNK CLUNK!! Turns out we ran over a nail and had a completely flat tire! Luckily, we had a doughnut in the trunk so we just pulled off to the side of the road and started to change the tire – well Josh did at least, while Alexa and I sat on the rails on the side of the road "helping".

We couldn't drive on the doughnut all the way to Toronto, so we drove slowly and very carefully to the next town- which ended up being about 20 minutes away. We drove up to the Canadian Tire at about 2pm, thinking if we got the tire changed fast enough (and maybe sped a bit), we may be able to make it to the first event at 5pm on time. But of course, Canadian Tire's first opening wasn't until 6pm, so there goes that idea. We kept driving around this small little town until we found some sketchy garage who was willing to change the tire for dirt cheap! At this point, there was no way we could make it the first event on time, so we ordered a pizza and were on our way. We finally got there, only

a little late, put on some fancy clothes on and went to dinner.

The first night, and the following day was filled with interesting speakers and workshops about what you can do after you graduate and information on becoming a P.Eng. (Luis wrote an article about the speakers in the last Iron Times, so I won't touch on that.)

Saturday night was interesting. Take a bunch of engineers (slightly intoxicated, I might add) and stick them on a cruise boat for 6 hours ... yeah, that's a great idea! There was a buffet with lots and lots of cookies for dessert! "Home for a Rest" had almost everyone up and dancing on the dance floor, but after a few hours – and overpriced alcohol, people started to settle down. Quite frankly we were getting bored, so when the ship had to go to shore so a girl could be taken away in an ambulance. It was very unfortunate that she hurt herself, but being the optimists we all are, we thought maybe, just maybe, we could all get off the boat and perhaps, you know, go someplace where the alcohol wasn't sooooo expensive. But nope, we had to stay on, so what else was there to do? I grabbed some napkins and a pen and started making a deck of cards to play Euchre! It was a great way to pass the time, and we had lots of spectators - including the kitchen chef! Time flew by once we had "cards" and before we knew it, we were back on land, drinking some delicious juice and going to bed.

The next morning was a rough one, waking up bright and early after a night full of adventures is always difficult, but having to sit and pay attention is even harder! We packed up, said goodbye to our newly made friends and started the long journey back to Ottawa. I would say more about our way home... but I was asleep, so my story ends here.

WIE Book Club: Women's Encounters Across Ages

Daphne "DSL" Ong
- BIOM IV -

Shortly after the first brush of midterms, wrapping up the fall term we held our first Book Club Session of the year!

We were delighted to continue a Book Club co-organized by the three Carleton University groups IEEE WIE, CU-WISE and WIL.

Two speakers presented books the donated to the WISE library by Dr. Frize (one of them she is the author of!). This was followed by an informal discussion of each book.

So on a cold Thursday, November 25th, starting at 6pm, a tableful of students filled up a section at The Tea Party café, on York Street.

Purpose to hear from Rosalyn Seeton who read "The Bold and the Brave", by Dr. Monique Frize and Shilpi Dave who read "The Chalice and the Blade", by Riane Eisler.

The books followed the theme of Women's encounters across ages with an ending on women in science and engineering from Dr. Frize's view.

Courtesy of WIE Ottawa, the first 15 people received a \$5 coupon for consumables on site!

Now I have to admit. This was personally my first book club session; and I was sceptic. What kind of impression are we giving off by holding an event like this? Turns out I was quite wrong.

The room was filled with quite a number of familiar faces. As we first heard about the book Rosalyn read, it sparked up quite a number of deep discussions of how things have changed for women from just a few years ago until the present.

It was then I realized that young women of today do need to sit and think about these things every once in a while; especially those of us in Science and Engineering.

As we listened to Shilpi's presentation, it became clearer that we're living the dream that many women in the past had only dreamed of. To be able to speak freely, study what we want, have our say and climb and strive just as equally as men.

However, we live it, so we don't know what it was like for them, the struggle, those who worked, strived for, to earn for us what we have today. It was good to sit and appreciate what was done for us; this is something we can't forget.

The next step for our generation though is to maintain this. There has been a concern that there is a very slight decline for women studying in engineering within the last few years.

Wait wasn't this supposed to be a book club session? It certainly still was, the books just sparked very thought provoking discussions. I certainly left that evening with a lot of food for thought, and definitely a very changed perspective on the book club too.

Return of The Grammar Nazi

Gilles "Nightstalker" Messier
- AERO IV -

It has been a while since I last wrote an English for Engineering entry. In the meantime, aside from writing my History of Engineering articles, I am also one of the main editors for The Iron Times. In the course of this work, I seem to encounter the same glaring mistakes over and over again in the submissions I edit. Thus, rather than focusing on any specific category of errors (spelling, diction, sentence structure etc.), I have compiled a list of common mistakes endemic to Iron Times submissions. Don't worry, I won't name names; the perpetrators of these literary crimes shall remain safe in their anonymity (but you know who you are!).

Now, without further ado, on with the list. Go, read! Improve your writing! Now! Schnell!

1. Spell Check Won't Save You

If I had to give a single, all-encompassing piece of advice, it would be this: PROOFREAD. Many submissions I edit were obviously written in one shot and never revised by the author. Please, for the editors' sakes, read over your work at least once. It takes only a few minutes and makes our lives a little easier. Some proofreading tips and tricks I have found useful are:

- Read your work aloud. You will catch grammatical errors that your brain otherwise tends to gloss over when reading.
- Print and edit your work on paper. This reduces eyestrain, making small typos etc. easier to see.
- Wait at least an hour between writing and editing. When you are too accustomed to your writing, you tend to miss certain mistakes.
- Have a friend read your work. Being unfamiliar with the piece, they will catch errors you may have missed.

And while you might think that Spellcheck renders proofreading irrelevant, many typos result in valid (but inappropriate) words that Spellcheck will not catch. For example, the S and D's proximity on the QWERTY keyboard can lead to the inadvertent confusion of tenses. As for Grammar Check features, English so inconsistently follows its own rules that there are many creative - and technically valid - sentence structures that such a program will flag. There is no substitute for human familiarity with the subtleties of language.

2. Divide and Conquer

Other than the general lack of proofreading, the most common issue with many of the submissions is the organization of ideas. Many people cram as many ideas as possible into a single sentence. Others jump schizophrenically from idea to idea. Before writing anything, you should lay out the structure of your piece: what ideas are you going to cover? In what order? Only once this framework is sketched out should you begin writing in earnest. Some specific tips concerning organization - culled from six months of submissions - are:

- Don't be afraid of short sentences. Long, run-on sentences are exhausting for the reader, causing them to lose track of thought being expressed.
- If you must include two ideas in one sentence, separate your clauses using a semicolon; otherwise try to split your ideas into single sentences.
- To insert an aside or other tangential piece of information, use hyphens or - if the aside does not flow with the sentence - parentheses (as has just been demonstrated here).
- Don't, overuse, commas (see, below).
- Introduce a list with a colon (not a comma). If your list entries are themselves lists or include "and"/"or", separate them with semicolons. The use of an Oxford comma before the final "and" is optional; I personally find it redundant.

3. An Informal Affair

I understand that The Iron Times is far from a formal publication and that its articles are meant to be light-hearted and entertaining. Nevertheless, there is a vast difference between writing informally on purpose and not being able to write formally at all. As many readers have no doubt discovered, Engineering provides no refuge from writing; we will all eventually have to write proposals, memos and reports. Thus, learning to write clearly and professionally is key to a successful engineering career.

A frustratingly common phenomenon I encounter in Iron Times submissions is the attempt to adapt conversational conventions directly into writing.

Some examples include:

- Overuse of the word "like"
- Improper, weak or vague verbs ("go", "get", "do")
- Vagueness ("that thing" etc) and ambiguous "hanging" pronouns ("it", "his/her etc.).
- Incomplete Sentences (eg. "I've won both by the way, that skilled and that lazy.")

and ways that different schools have made attempts to integrate design more.

Get Involved. I know you all have heard these two words, but our next speaker Howard Brown went into great detail in ways you can get involved. Getting involved is great, some ways he suggests is joining a political party, just test the water, you don't have to like the party, but you can get insider information in the working of parties, donate your time or money to charities (as a fellow engineer I know both of these are lacking for ourselves, but just an hour a week can be valuable to these organization, personally I suggest donating blood, it only takes a little time and when you're done, you get cookies), or find something you believe in and fight for it.

Our next speaker was Drew Dudley, a motivational speaker, with a message. He started on leadership, and how most people see leadership as only changing the world in large ways. I believe one key piece to his talk was do what you want, now I don't mean be an ass to everyone, but in life if you're unhappy with the now, change what you do so that you are happy. Which leads to another point, change, change doesn't mean failure, ask yourselves if you dropped out of your program because you didn't like it to be happy, would you consider

There is a reason why dialogue in books sounds nothing like real life. Real dialogue is surprisingly unstructured and vague, with much information being conveyed through inflection and body language; it translates poorly into writing.

4. One-Eyed, One Horned Flying Purple Prose Writer

On the opposite end of the spectrum are writers who (unsuccessfully) attempt to infuse their writing with "class" and "professionalism" by injecting "sophisticated" (eg. "pontificate" or an incorrectly-employed "whom") into an otherwise conventional piece. In editing circles, such pompously padded writing is known as "purple prose"... and it doesn't fool anyone. Indeed, you come off sounding like more of a fool than had you simply stuck to the vocabulary you are familiar with.

In most situations, the simpler, more common word will suffice. Two common exceptions are technical jargon (an inductor is an inductor, not a doodad) and words which capture an idea more succinctly and professionally than any others (ie. "extemporaneous" sounds better than "on the spot".)

5. Writing Grab-Bag

Here are a handful of other common mistakes I have come across which do not fit into any particular category:

- Be careful with possessives and plurals. An apostrophe is only used to pluralize punctuated abbreviations (thus A.T.M.'s / ATMs).
- Watch out for certain compound words. "Wherein / Where in", "Turnout/Turn Out" and "Onto / On to" mean different things.
- Capitalize Acronyms!
- Commas are not colons. Commas are not semi-colons. Commas are not hyphens or parentheses. Commas indicate pauses separating clauses or items in a list. Use them are such. As I mentioned long ago, don't, overuse, your, commas, please, you, sound, like, William, Shatner.
- When making an aside or a long list, make sure that your sentence structure carries through to every part of the sentence. For example, in the following sentence: "How to get involved in engineering in its benefits." The end does not follow the beginning. This makes no sense in context.

yourself a failure, if so why, are you in this program to make yourself happy or someone else.

Our last speaker was Professor Bill Van Hesyte on engineering entrepreneurship. I will admit this topic is not my biggest interest, but for some it may be. One aspect I will talk about is an engineer's biggest weakness in this is fear of ambiguity and the unknown, we want to know what is going on and if we can't change something it is something we can't handle.

Now for the fun! To answer your question, yes I did. The first night we got there, we had parties in the rooms where we interacted with our fellow engineers from other schools. Now as I didn't have any "juice," I was not under any foreign influence, but I still had fun, proving you don't need to drink to have fun. In this room we played a game that I will not name, essentially an engineer from another school wanted to know what something meant in this game, so I was one of two people picked for and if you remember what I did one day of FROSH week, then you are well aware of what I did. The person, who said this phrase as well as everyone else in the room, regretted this. The next night, we went to a local coffee house for open performance night where I tried and failed at comedy.

FYIC

Therron "Diamond" Lehman
- AERO I -

On Friday January 28th, I went to the First Year Integration Conference at the University of Guelph. It was a very interesting experience to say the least. There were two aspects of this conference, speakers and information sessions, as well as the fun that occurred at night. I will first talk about speakers and information, then end on a fun note. If you only care about my exploits skip to the last paragraph. Saturday from 09:00 to 17:30, we partook in the information session. We started with a presentation from ESSCO which is a student run engineering council in Ontario, as well as CFES which is for engineering student in all of Canada; they talked about their purpose and what they look after. After this there was a presentation from PEO, (Professional Engineers of Ontario) where we were told about after we graduate, the requirements needed to become a P.Eng. For more information on what these groups do, please Google them.

Design was also talked about by Prof Warren Stiver, who teaches engineering design at the University of Guelph; he talked about the importance of design

GALLERY



Bridge Building, Potato Canon, Moonbuggy... it's amazing that I'm not in the lab right now.



It's fitting that I had the most difficulty creating pants for my costume.



ENTERTAINMENT

For Those Who Hate Cabs

Mike "Homeward Bound" Debeneditis
- ELEC II -

Those of you who like to go out on weekends and have fun have probably taken a cab home at least once, if not more than once. But I have a different mode of transportation for your consideration. Walking! If you don't know, I'm quite the expert on travelling by foot. There have been many times that I have walked to or from someone's house, a bar, dance, restaurant, or even a completely different school. This is why I feel qualified to share my insight with you.

Your Guide to Walking Home Intoxicated as F**k. There are many different routes that you can take, and here are a few of my favourites.

O-train Tracks:

The O-train tracks are my absolute favorite drunken route back to res after a night at the Clubhouse in South Keys. KEY NOTE: Do not walk on tracks before the last train has run! The trains have air horns. And they use them. If you don't want to crap your pants I recommend taking them after 1:30. On the plus side though, you can follow these tracks from south keys right to Minto. The bridge over the river may look intimidating from the train, but trust me. There's a walkway.

The Canal:

The canal is a definite second choice. Whether you're coming back from just up the river, or don't want to pay the cab fare from Ottawa U, the canal is a sure way of getting back to Carleton. I know it's the least direct route, but for all you intoxicated sons of b*tches, it's incredibly easy to follow. And if you have to piss, it's as easy as taking off your pants. (Unless you don't have a penis.)

Roads: Bank and Bronson are your friends!

If you find yourself drunk after a 67's game or really dizzy sitting at Kettleman's. Bank will take you to Sunnyside. LOOK FOR THE MAYFAIR!! Most of you have been there because of Frosh. Walk down Sunnyside until you're at Bronson. Then... Cross the road! There's a sign. You can't miss it. If you find yourself on Bronson... Well one of the school's entrances is on Bronson. Self explanatory.

Some side notes:

Trust your friends! If you're incredibly drunk and don't know where you're going, people who are sober will direct you in the right way! Yes people play jokes on drunks all the time, but if you end up dead in a ditch from wrong directions... Who can we make fun of now? On another side note, don't trust Campbell for directions. Even if he says he'll take responsibility for you and your lost drunk ass. Cops can be your friends and enemies. There have been times when I got "pulled over" for walking down the middle of the road by a cop, only to have him point me in the right direction. And other times when I've blacked in to three cops trying to throw me in jail. So, be wary and don't yell at them to f**k off. They will put you in the Drunk Tank... The Drunk Tank is not fun.

Parks are bad. You will get lost, guaranteed. Trees and grass all look the same, and there are very few streetlights in parks. Although park benches are very convenient for quick breaks on the way home, or even brief naps, avoid them whenever you can.

If you are hopelessly lost don't panic, don't freak out, don't call your friends and ask them where the hell you are, because they will not be amused. In my experience asking random people on the street is quite effective. The people who give the best directions are... hobos! It is nice if you give the bum a dollar. Trust me, the homeless know their way around! Also! Make sure the shoes you're wearing are your own! You may not realize how important this is but halfway home, or the next morning, you'll realize how sore your feet are from wearing two left shoes. Or you may realize how far you have to go, to get your shoes back.

So, next time you're a tipsy... or falling over... or completely blacked out... instead of calling a cab and paying an absurd amount of money... Walk! Get some friggin' exercise!

Editors Note: The Iron Times does not encourage urinating in public. Also, public nudity has a time and place, but should not occur near police officers, children, or the elderly. It should also be noted that walking on the O-train tracks, even at 2:00 in the morning, is a bad idea.

NCWIE

Jackie "Saucy Beaver" Soicher
- BIOM III -

A friend recommended I attend the National Conference on Women in Engineering this year and although I was a bit sceptical and worried about being surrounded by male bashing feminists, I took her advice and am quite glad I did. This year's theme was "Expanding Horizon's", which focused on encouraging us to move past being just a student or an engineer and to strive to be multidisciplinary world leaders in our own way. This message was most clear to me in a talk by Carleton professor Banu Ormeci who spoke about how the profession of engineering is evolving from its origins as "war engineering" to what she called "peace engineering". She described how there had once been a time when rocket engineer, such as Wernher Van Braun, who had once worked for the Nazi government in Germany could later be recruited by the USA to put the first man on the moon. Now engineers and their sponsors place greater importance on the outcome

of their work and the impact it will have on the world around us. Engineering is becoming much more multidisciplinary with strong ties in public health, economy, business and environmental issues among others. This also encourages engineers to become more diverse, multicultural and innovative, by demanding communication skills, continued learning and strong leadership in order to be successful.

The conference really focused on the importance of diversity in the engineering community in order to look at problems from all possible angles and find the best possible solutions. With diversity in mind, I look forward to seeing more girls studying engineering in the future and I also encourage more guys to attend conferences like NCWIE, if only to know what it might feel like to be in a classroom surrounded by mostly members of the opposite sex.

GO SEEDS GO!!

Emily Vingerhoeds
- ENVE GRAD -

The SEEDS soccer team – composed of undergrads, grads, and one prof – brought out their soccer skills at the ISSO International Soccer Tournament on February 13. Apparently, the international soccer scene at Carleton is similar to engineering – in that it is predominantly composed of males. Among the 12 teams competing in the tournament, the SEEDS team was the only co-ed team featured in the tournament, with half of the teammates being female. All players brought out their talent during the first game of the morning which saw the purple SEEDS team pitted against a mixture of blue and green jerseys.

After allowing the opposing team to gain a two goal lead, the SEEDS team attempted a comeback and scored an excellent goal near the end of the game. However, the short game of only 20 minutes ended in a defeat of the SEEDS team with a final score of 2-1. However, the tournament did not end there, as the top 8 of 12 teams would continue to the quarter-finals.

Due to the low point differential and the plus of having scored a goal, there was a good chance for the SEEDS team to gain admittance to the next round. Yet, as it so happened, there was a tie for point differential between the purple SEEDS team and the orange team after the first round of games were complete; a 10-minute game was scheduled between the two teams, with the winner being the one to advance to the quarter-finals. The qualifying game was an intense 10 minutes, with all other teams watching intently to see what the outcome would be.

The SEEDS players managed to defend our net well, keeping the score at 0-0. A shootout decided the fate of the SEEDS team, and sadly it was at this point that a defeat of 2-1 came about. In all though, the players showed tremendous skill for having never played with each other before, and great effort to defend the net with our "rookie" volun-told goalie! And, we were excited to at least play twice during the tournament! Thanks to all the players who came out and made the SEEDS soccer team a success!

Looking towards a future SEEDS event, volunteers are still needed for an enrichment mini course being offered by SEEDS for junior-high and high-school students. SEEDS executive members applied for funding to construct the mini course in November, and were recently awarded the approval and support from Carleton's Educational Development Centre (EDC) and CUOL (formerly CUTV).

The enrichment mini course will span a week in May, and will explain what environmental problems are and how the young students can do their part to help clean up the Earth. Hands-on experiments and activities will clarify what happens to the garbage, dirty water, and polluted air that leaves from the family house or car.

Volunteers are necessary to plan and design environmental-related activities and implement the activities for the course. This is the first time that SEEDS will be involved with creating and carrying out a mini course; therefore, any input or volunteers which will help to make this event a success will be greatly appreciated!

Additional information regarding future SEEDS events, member & mailing list signups, and volunteer signups, can be accessed through the SEEDS website at www.seedsottawa.wordpress.com. Specific questions can be directed to SEEDS@engsoc.org.

Apparently you can try to wade across the river as well. It's not recommended, though, especially when you forget your shoes.

Troitsky Bridge Building Competition 2011

Jordan "Crack" Briggs
- AERO IV -

This past weekend I attended the 27th Annual Troitsky Bridge Building Competition for the first time ever, as part of the ever-boisterous C-Eng delegation. For those unaware of what "Bridge" is all about, it's an annual competition hosted by Concordia University where teams from across the country (and the border) build popsicle-stick and dental floss bridges and test them under the relentless hydraulic muscle of The Crusher. I was expecting to have a time at Bridge, and I can assure you; a time was most certainly had. I was also expecting to see some bridges, and I guess you can say I saw some of those as well. What I wasn't expecting was just how fruitful of a learning experience it would be...so much so that I decided to share with you an assortment of what I've learned. (This has nothing to do with finishing this article as fast as possible because it's delaying the latest Iron Times issue).

I learned that...

- while 5:30am may be too early in the morning to catch a bus, it's not too early for a cold one.
- Nolan spent a ridiculous amount of time and money making an early aviator costume out of DUCT TAPE, complete with flying helmet and scarf.
- I have some skill in the application of makeup, not only on myself but to others as well. For the record,

it was technically "Bronzing Agent", and no, I've never worn it before.

- that Ms. Scarlett was actually Therron, which may have disappointed Angus.
- it is possible to recycle a two-four of cans into a statue of your religious deity.
- Troitsky Shore was the hottest team there.
- you should always accept free candy from girls, especially if they're hot and are engineers. Oh wait...they're all Civils? Never mind then...
- dimensions and measuring are for noobs.
- the number of civil engineers on your team has no bearing on your bridge's performance. We all did equally terrible, and proudly so.
- Ian's awesomeness cannot be explained.
- Nigel had reached such an intense level of happiness, that by mid-afternoon he had to have a nap(s). He made a lot of friends though, because he was just so darn happy!
- a "Jersey Ton" is equivalent to 2 metric tons.
- Carleton wins when it comes to cheering about the most mediocre of things.
- some U of Calgary teams have almost no idea what a bridge is, let alone how to build one.
- in typical Quebec fashion, the McGill team's bridge was badly designed, hastily finished, and poorly

constructed. Yet it almost beat ours...

- Mac knows how to beat The Crusher.
- paper airplane battles are an acceptable means of overcoming boredom for young adults while in a restaurant.
- Alyssa likes wearing tattoos, and Jess likes applying them to people's bodies.
- "free drinks" don't include a tip, thus Club Entourage learned how cheap we are.
- club soda is considered a substitute for tonic water in some establishments. NO!
- some people from Carleton are experienced in the art of pole dancing.
- "Birthday Sex" is an acceptable answer to any question
- there are between 48 - 52 states in the U.S.A., of which we can list roughly 49.
- Andrew Porter obeys seniority rules in terms of sleeping arrangements.
- Alyssa fetched a shrubbery for the Woodmans. Good job!
- there was no longer jelly beans there.
- there is more than one accepted way to spell gullible (so did Simone).
- Some people need to learn that IT WASN'T F*CKING PEE!!! IT WAS WINE!!!

The Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Race of 2011

Andrew "Rocksteady" Campbell
- EARTH V -

"Hey Bro, eat some corn nuts bro!" and "Waaaaaaah!" are just some of the inside jokes the GNCTR crew brought back with them. If you ask anyone who attended this event, they will say it was the time of their lives and not something to miss. True, this competition does consume many hours of your time; from the end of Christmas break to January 20 - when we finally shipped the sled crate - I personally spent over 100 hours in the civil lab! However, those same people who spent countless hours in the lab, breaking their backs, working hard and never fooling around, will tell you it is all worth it. Though we did not win a single award, this year's GNTCR competition was one of the most interesting I have ever attended. The excitement began at the Ottawa airport and it didn't stop until we returned 4 days later. In the concrete toboggan competition, steering-based offenses are considered especially dangerous. In Edmonton, the dedicated engineers and earth sciences student who investigate the vicious slopes are members of an elite squad, known as the Carleton Expendables. These are their stories.

Airport security is very strict nowadays and the guards don't like large groups of university students, especially us engineers. When we walked up and told them we each had nerf guns and power tools in our luggage, they were extremely impressed. They were so impressed, in fact, that we had to personally bring our bags to the oversized luggage counter and explain what exactly was packed inside. Did the fun stop there in Ottawa? NOPE. We also had bandoliers of small plastic bullet-shaped shot glasses useful for nocturnal activities. When my carry-on bag was checked, I was asked the purpose of these strange looking objects by security. After explaining what they actually were, the guards asked if I could give them a few when I returned. Once in Edmonton, we were told to wait 40 minutes until the McMaster team landed so we could ride a bus with them to the hotel. Fuck that, we thought; instead, we went outside, where the temperature was a gorgeous 8 degrees. The snow was just starting to melt, forming the best material in the world: packing snow. Immediately, the departure/arrival loading docks of the Edmonton airport became the sight of an epic snowball fight between Carleton and Sherbrooke engineers. Snow was tossed everywhere, people were pegged in all the right places, and no one lost an eye. Then McMaster arrived and cheering began within seconds.

Friends were reunited and new friendships were made (oh EngLove, how I love you!). The craziness began as soon as we reached the hotel, with Carleton putting on quite a show. This was soon interrupted by the standard lame stuff - registration, safety meetings and hotel checkin - and it was soon time for opening ceremonies. At the ceremony, each school presents their team theme in skit/song format to show off their school spirit. As always, we were last to present, but hey: they kept the best for last. So once the Captains killed the rest of the team in the re-enactment the opening scene of the movie, we all burst out in cheers and yelling. Even though it was a long ceremony, the dinner buffet of chicken, burgers, salad and fries made up for it. Then night activities started and a few brain cells were lost.

Thursday is known as Games Day and Technical Exhibit setup day. All 400 competing engineers piled into school buses and set off towards University of Alberta campus. I think I speak for the entire team when I say "OMG!!!" The campus is gorgeous; you can tell they are loaded with money. The engineering building even has equations engraved in the concrete (NERDS!). The design of each building was so unique it made our jaws drop. The day itself was filled with games such as tug of war, dodgeball, and even some engineering challenges such as building the most efficient bridge with only newspaper and tape. In the evening we piled into a Chinese buffet and stuffed ourselves to bursting. We were then shipped to a bar, where we were given free cowboy hats and \$3 drinks. It was a good night, to say the least; sadly more brain cells were sacrificed. The Technical Exhibit is by far the longest and craziest day of the competition, when every team displays their sled designs. This year we came in 3rd for Tech X and came very close to taking home gold. The man himself - Rick Mercer - came to Edmonton to see why 400 engineers would put themselves on a 300lb concrete sled and race it down a hill. Well, he certainly found out: on race day he rode the U of A toboggan, which they flipped on him. His segment on GNTCR aired on February 8th, in case anyone wants to see him crash. After a long day the GNCTR committee bought all the teams pizza, which Carleton wolfed down as quickly as possible. After all, you can't visit Edmonton without seeing one thing: THE WEST EDMONTON MALL.

For those of you that don't know, this mall has a WATER PARK, a ROLLER COASTER (yes, A FUCKING ROLLER COASTER!) and a SUBMARINE (those of you who are not excited by that are lame and should stop reading now). We ended up taking a taxi to the mall because it was not in the planned program. This was not a normal taxi ride by any stretch of the imagination. At first, a few people were discussing politics; growing tired of the conversation, I did what I do best: I interrupted them every few seconds with a dumb remark until they stopped. Then we started talking about West Edmonton Mall. To everyone else I must have seemed drunk, but in reality I was dead sober (but extremely excited). At first I started ending everyone's sentences with "in a mall"; this joke quickly turned into an "in a mall" rendition of The Lonely Island's "I'm on a Boat". The mall visit was followed by another bar night; again, many more brain cells were lost.

Finally, around came the biggest day of the week: RACE DAY. You are probably all wondering how Carleton fared. Well, during the section where they mark us on speed and braking, we couldn't seem to pass the finish line. Yes: we are that good. So after feeling the pain of not finishing, it was time for King of the Hill, in which two teams race down the hill simultaneously to determine who crosses the finish line first. While racing the University of BC, our back man (Matt McEwen) fell off and barrel-rolled to greatness while the rest of the sled continued down the track. Without a person to steer, the sled veered towards the barrier dividing the 2 tracks. Previously every sled that hit these barriers had flipped, so when ours neared the divider we understandably held our breath. Then, the miraculous happened: the sled flew over the barrier, landed on the other track and crossed the finish line. Yes: we flew a 300lb sled. Beat that.

Later that night were the Closing Ceremonies, where all the awards are presented. Our friends over at McMaster took home the Spirit award, which we later helped them celebrate. The end of the ceremonies also heralded the end of the competition and the death of any remaining brain cells. After a long 4 days we finally returned to Ottawa loaded with good memories. If this story has made you want to join GNCTR next year, my job is done. Until next time, stay thirsty my friends.

Fun Fact: because of its incredible insulating capabilities, duct tape clothing is amazingly warm.

Why Mentor? Why Be Mentored?

Daphne "DSL" Ong
- BIOM IV -

On November 27th, 2010, Carleton IEEE Women in Engineering and uOttawa Women in Engineering, banded together to co-host "Why Mentor? Why Be Mentored?" Starting at 1pm in the lovely Desmarais Building, attendees arrived to be welcomed with a friendly atmosphere and light refreshments. We were pleased to welcome, Jennifer Ng Ain Kin (member of IEEE for over 21 years & IEEE volunteer for over 10 years), WonSook Lee (Ph.D., Associate Professor in SITE, the Faculty of Engineering, at uOttawa), and Jieyi Rong (current WIE Ottawa Chair, and recent graduate of the Electrical Engineering program at Carleton University and former Chair of Carleton University IEEE Student Branch) as guest speakers at our event. We invited them to give their insights, experiences and perspectives (both formal and informal) on mentoring. It was very interesting to see the varied perspectives and methods each of the three had on both being a mentor and being a mentee.

Dr. Lee gave an academic view on how mentors assist in the mental growth of their mentees. She emphasized the importance of setting goals, meeting to achieve them in set timelines, and constant interaction with each other. She stressed that taking the time to meet with each other is very valuable in this sort of learning relationship, otherwise there is a better chance of this relationship failing. In the end both a mentor and a mentee should benefit, and be just as equally rewarded from their time together. Ms. Ng gave us a very different interpretation. From her experiences she finds that face-to-face interaction isn't always necessary. She's had several positive experiences without needing the in-person interactions. Regardless of how a mentor and mentee interact, the most important thing for mentees is that their mentors provide them with honest advice, as opposed to something 'pretty' and untruthful, something said straight-up and to the point is ideal.

Ms. Rong, fresh from her studies at Carleton, gave us some insight on how she views mentoring, and how she thinks students have the best opportunity to find a good mentor. She advised finding a mentor with similar interests, and if you're still a student, to take all the chances you can to learn from the experiences of the professionals surrounding you. She also recommends students find internship programs, and get involved. Their audience was left with very insightful interpretations on Why Mentor? Why Be Mentored? There was definitely a lot to take away by the end of the afternoon. The event was made successful thanks to our speakers and to WIE R7 for their support! We send to them many thanks! It was also a first time student collaboration between the two WIE student branches, who were both very proud of the results of this collaboration. There will certainly be more of this sort in the near future so be on the look out for that!



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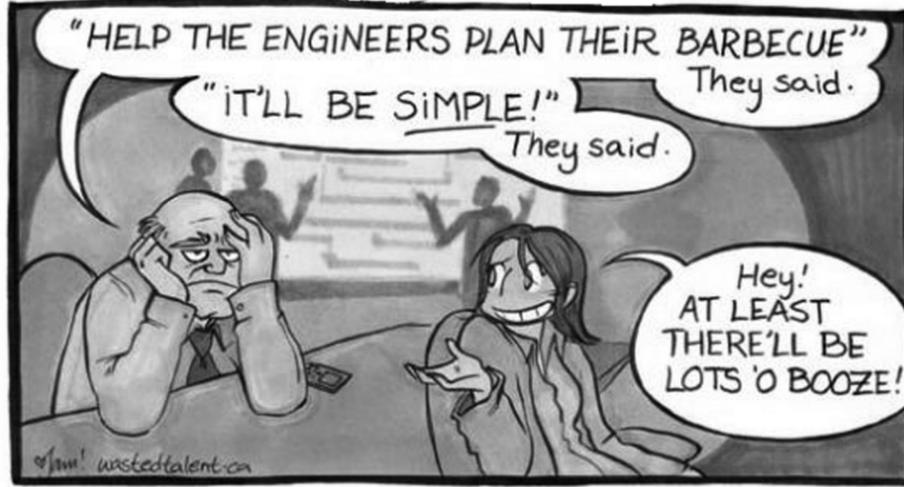
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Finally something that got sent to me before being sent to Kaitlyn, however this one probably should've been sent to her first.

COMICS & ART

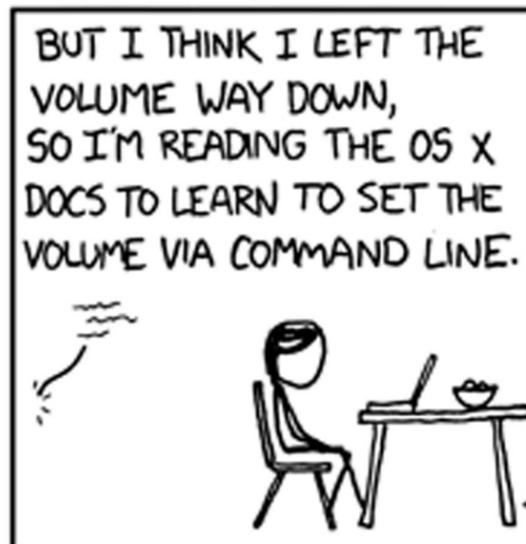
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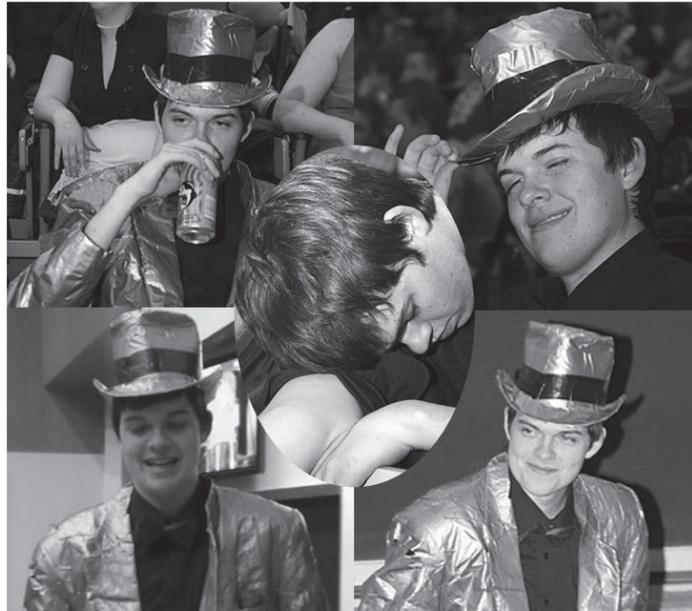
There's only one way to find out if there's jelly beans there.

LAST WORDS

Uses For The Charlatan

- Sword Fighting
- Stuffing your hobo coat to keep warm
- Lining your greenbin. Remember keep the compostables together
- Keep your desk clean while refilling a toner cartridge
- Cleaning up the big mess you made after spilling the toner all over the CMAS desk.
- Fireplace logs, you just roll up and tie a few together, for makeshift fireplace logs.
- Place several crumpled up balls in coolers you're storing for the winter. They'll help to keep the inside of the coolers smelling fresh!
- Test the burning potential of the 400 mA laser pointer you bought off the internet for use at 4th year projet presentations.
- You can read it.

Sleeper of the Month



The Troitsky Bridge Building competition is known not only for construction innovation using only basic materials, but for also outstanding achievements in the field of sleep. This month's sleeper of the month is Mr. Nigel Nobel-Hearle. While there were about 10 candidates from the trip to Montreal, Nigel stood out from the crowd. Carleton has a reputation of being the loudest group at Troitsky, and this year was no exception. Successfully napping in-between bridge crushings, surrounded by all of us yelling, is a feat few could pull off. His achievement did not go unnoticed, as by the end of the crushing there was not a single person in that room that did not know his name.

* Sleeper of the month is entirely consensual and submission based. All people appearing in this section have given prior consent and have been informed in advance that their picture will appear here.

FEEDBACK LOOP

for statement = 1 to n

why is it everytime i type "why can't i own" in google the first result is "why can't i own a canadian?"

next statement

Iron Times should at least pay for the alcohol I must consume to edit some of these submissions.

next statement

Those stuck up heads conducting their interviews. I couldn't even bear to look at them.

next statement

They are cut. I only want beautiful people to go.

next statement

CMAS exec needs to keep spare skirts for non-formally dressed members.

next statement

Training offers exciting bonuses, like how to put in a tampon.

next statement

A guy dressed in an apollo 14 get up for a formal portrait, now that is forever alone!

next statement

Did you say something about my space suit? I'm sorry: I couldn't hear you up here IN SPACE!

next statement

If a man speaks in a forest and there is no woman around to hear it. Is he still wrong?

end

Want to say something? Post to the loop at:
irontimes.engsoc.org

Upcoming Events - March

28	29	1 Self Injury Awareness Day	2 Peasants Day	3 Sportsmen's day	4 National Grammar day	5 Air Brake Is Patented
National Engineering Week						
6 Presentation of the first Periodic Table	7 Antoine César Becquerel's birthday	8 Women's Day	9 Gerald Bull's Birthday	10 Bell makes the first phone call.	11 Res Caf Invasion	12 Charity LAN
13 Facil Pub	14 Pi Day	15 International Day Against Police Brutality	16 First lauch of a liquid-fueled rocket	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Englove	19 Quinquatria
20 International Day of the Francophonie	21 World Down Syndrome Day	22 World Day for Water	23 AGM	24 World Tuberculosis Day	25 Ring Day	26 Reflections
27 World Theatre Day	28 Three Mile Island accident begins	29 Day of the Young Combatant	30 National Doctors' Day	31 VAP	1	2

Watch out for the next



April