



The Recycler

(Where the articles are a bunch of garbage)

Fall 2005



The Great Pumpkin Murdered

Just before midnight of October 15th 2005 religious figure and children's favorite The Great Pumpkin was murdered. The Great Pumpkin, a strange hybrid of a jack-o-lantern, a scarecrow, and Santa Claus, known for arising out of the most sincere pumpkin patch to deliver toys to all true believing children was found murderously hacked apart in Jackson, Ohio the next day. Two children waiting the emergence of The Great Pumpkin witnessed the slaughter.

"Good Grief. Good Grief. Good Grief." Recanted a distressed Charlie Brown from under his terrible ghost costume to the interviewing police officers.

"Every Halloween the Great Pumpkin flies through the air with his bag of toys, and just think....if you and I sit here all night, we may get to see him!" Insists a very delusional and repressed Linus Van Pelt as he sucked his thumb and hugged his blanky.

The murderers were caught shortly after their crime. Nicholas Hamilton, 22, and his girl-friend Christy Dieffenbaugher, 23, of Barberton, Ohio were found floating in a local pond in the one-thousand pound corpse as if it were a boat. Boasting their prey, the couple hosted a party that would make Hannibal Lector proud, as they served the Great Pumpkin's innards to their guests in pie and seed form. They were charged for pumpkincide. When asked about the crime, young Mr. Hamilton could only respond, "It's harvest.... And its fun!" The spectators were not charged with any crimes though police were disgusted with their enthusiasm for pumpkinny gore and delectable edibles. News of this massacre has been found as far as CNN, the Weather Channel, and even, gasp, the local news stations and newspapers.



Nick Hamilton: Pumpkin-Killer

Lunch with Dr Roberts

AIChE kicked off its "Lunch with a Chemical Engineer" sessions by having lunch with Dr. Roberts. Lunch was basically the biography of Dr. Roberts who has been an exemplary model for chemical engineering in industry, academia, and as an individual. Despite what I have written below it was enjoyable and Dr. Roberts is an interesting man. Some things words just don't convey. Dr. Roberts worked in industry for 14 years where he worked in food preservation, polymers, worked in a factory which was built like a fortress to protect it from Nazi sabotage, and developed the Polaris rocket (ICBMs and space launches). In academia, he taught at The University of Akron for 22 years (was department head for 8 of those) and helped develop such great minds as our very own Dr. George Chase. He is still active in the University as the Chemical Engineering Department Historian (office: Whitby 309 ext.: 8680). He also is a model for life outside of chemical engineering as he sets off to sail to New Zealand in November (not in a pumpkin boat) to visit his 120th country with his wife of nearly 60 years. He proudly boasts about his three children (a pharmacist, a surgeon, and a vet). He also spent 3½ years in the US Army Air Corps. during WWII.

Oh, and the rigatoni we had for lunch was damn good too.

Nerds invade Cincinnati

Once a year the nerdy and the weird get together and drink. No. No. This isn't the National Science Fiction Convention, a Simpsons Symposium, or a Magic Conference. This is worse. This is the annual American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Conference. The AIChE conference is full of a select breed of nerds; guys who have moved out of their parents basements but don't have the time to, and are jealous of, the other nerds who got to attend the previously mentioned conferences. Once a year they all congregate to discuss Gibbs Free Energy, distillation columns, and how much they miss their parents basements. They also build little cars powered by chemical reactions and race them because RC cars just aren't bad enough. This year in attempt to mask their nerdiness or just for an excuse to show off their Klingon costumes to other nerds the AIChE conference was held over Halloween.

Our very own Chemical Engineering department sent its own envoy to represent. I'm told Dr. Elliot, who is the North Central Chair on the AIChE subcommittee for Regional Student Conferences, gave a lecture but no one went to watch so I don't know what it was about, probably a debate over who was the better captain – Kirk or Precard. Professionals and members of academia also made speeches and gave lectures but since they are not Dr. Elliot we don't care about them. A bunch of workshops were offered on everything from corporate sponsorship, mentorship programs to retrofitting a Zamboni with a fuel cell. Our little car team finished 10th in the car competition out of 2000 teams, was recognized as having the most creative design, and came in first in the poster competition – take that Puerto Rico.

At the end of the conference a massive costume party (aka: the Klingon costume exhibition) was held at the Burlington, Kentucky GameWorks. The Akronites dressed up as a witch, a ninja, an abortion that survived, and the most frightening monster known to man (and what would have been a shoe-in for scariest costume if the judges could look at him), Carl – He's hideous just look at him, Oh god he just makes you wish you were never born. They got hosed and didn't win any awards but at least the arcade games were free.

The Spring Regional AIChE Conference will be held at Purdue March 31st to April 2nd.



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AICHe Basketball Tournament

On Friday, November 18, AICHe held its first basketball tournament at the UA Recreation Center. 30 Under-graduate students, 6 faculty members and a grad student competed with each other for bragging rights. At the end of the day it would be the vicious senior team of Ben "the Magic" Meaige, Justin "Stone Hands" Wolfe, Adam "the Dinosaur Killer" Sinick, and the "Gentleman" Joe Dobson who would walk away with victory after a narrow overtime win over the faculty team in the championship game.

When asked for the biggest reason why the faculty team lost, a very exhausted Dr. Evans said, "We should have taken out Ben's knees." Thank you Dr. Evans for not answering the question that we posed yet again. Other members of the faculty were not available for comment because they were too winded.

Future tournaments for the spring semester are in the works. Contact Justin "Stone Hands" Wolfe with your suggestions.



Three seconds after this photo was taken Ben had two more points and Dr. Evans was still standing right about there.

Letters to the Recycler

Greetings from the Past:

This august paper was started originally by the class of 1972 and I believe John Bixler was then the first ever President of the U of A Student Chapter of AICHe. I may be mistaken about the year but I recall suggesting a contest to improve on the name of the paper which popped into my head one day when talking to John. I believe such correspondence would be a lot easier now with the advent of E-mail. At least the distribution and printing costs would be a lot less. As I now recall - at 82 my mind can be fuzzy on details - the publication was "on and off" for at least 10 years. I salute you in attempting to bring it back from the dead.

Dr. Robert W. Roberts
Professor Emeritus

A.A.A. With Carl Loskofsky*

Carl, Are ChEs better than everyone else?



Guess What? We are better than everyone else.

That's right. Now if the benefits of being a ChemE weren't enough already, with the endless work, PMT, and the hardest curriculum on campus, you can walk around knowing that you are better than everyone else. Now, when I say "everyone else" I mean every other undergrad on campus. Occasionally there will be an exceptional person/student in another field, but they don't count because they are not living up to their potential in a real field.

I am guessing you want some sort of "proof" why we are better. That's your first mistake, "proof" has no place when it comes to comparing people, only how loud and obnoxious you are, but since we care about facts I guess I can come up with some. Civils can't even compare to us, I mean when we are taking Transport Phenomena, that's right phenomena, they take Soils. While we are learning about mass, heat, and momentum transfer using differential equations, they are learning about dirt. Dirt, are you serious? The majority of engineering undergrads are probably mechanicals and rightfully so, by definition average should have the majority of the population. Their first semester of Thermo was our first test, in fluids they use the Bernoulli equation which was derived from the equation we use. Biomed's are really just mechanicals that have to memorize bones, again who wants to be average? The computer market is so saturated they can't get/keep jobs, so even if they might be better (no way) no one cares because it's hard to prove you are better without a job. Many think EEs might be comparable or even better (laughable), their only basis for stating such blasphemy is the math. EEs do more math than we do, but who cares about math. We have computers and mathematicians to do the grunt work for us because we are the bosses. EEs don't matter so they can't boss people around like we can.

If what I have said hasn't quite convinced you then we can always fall back on the fact that Undergrad ChemEs on average have a higher starting salary than those other "engineers."

*Disclaimer: To the best of our knowledge Carl's opinion is not now and never has been supported or respected by anyone ever

Upcoming AICHe Events

Pool Tournament at Jillian's	Jan 28th
Basketball Tournament	Feb 17th
BW3 Night	Mar 1st
Poker Tournament	Mar 23rd
Great Lakes Brewery Tour	Mar
Officer Elections	Mar

Contact The Recycler and AICHe:

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