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The LJM 2.0 - by Apollo camber racing

Apollo Camber Racing bags the Supra SAE India 2012 Championship

Harish Kumar
Joel Vasanth

SRM University's Apollo Camber Racing, now the overall national champions of SUPRA SAE 2012, are proud to announce the victory of its new prototype, LJM 02. Having performed at the Buddh International Circuit (BIC), Greater Noida, 'The Beast' as they call it, has won the team a cash prize of 2.7 lakh Rupees.

The concept behind SUPRA SAE INDIA 2012 is that a fictional manufacturing company has contacted a design team to develop a

small Formula style race car. The prototype is to be evaluated for its potential as a racing car. Supra SAE India is sponsored primarily by Maruti Suzuki and other sponsors such as ANSYS, Bharat Petroleum and ARAI.

"Camber Racing is a sincere, dedicated and hard working team. I am determined to keep them working," says Dr. Leenus Jesu Martin, HOD, Automobile Engineering. The new prototype, the successor to LJM01 comes with a 796cc engine and power-train sponsored by Maruti Suzuki themselves.

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Indians need internal churning

Rohini Bothra

“I have immense hope on not just the young generation but also on old, retired citizens. The country is poised on good times- but we need internal churning”, said Mr. Stalin K, a documentary maker and media and human rights activist during a joint venture of Tehelka and Aircel – an event called “Power of Inspiration”. A group of people who work to ‘democratize’ India and transform it – the ground warriors have given up material wealth and dedicated their lives to help marginalized people. One such person is Mr. Stalin. When asked what made him cover the riots in Gujarat he said that the mere knowledge of what the presence of a camera could do in a violent atmosphere drove him. To understand people better, he got volunteers to train marginalized people in using the camera and took their help to document incidents. In this way he said he helped democratize media with the help of improving technology.

Ms. Shubha Mudgal, a Hindustani classical singer, composer and winner of Padmashree award, said that in India any art form is an expression of inter-disciplinary actions. Expression exists with every form of music. “We often step out of purview of classical form and move into the more popular forms of music these days. But I would much rather delve into the huge treasure available to all Indians”, she said. Today, there are 200+ books on music in the portal. Another project, Sangeeth Kosh, an online Wikipedia of Indian music was an initiative by Ms. Mudgal which required editors and musicians to contribute in areas of their specialization. When asked about what inspired her to take up the project, she simply said- “I love dreaming”. With the hope that Indian music improves and its structure rethought, she concluded her excellent speech.

A Giant step towards quick student grievance solution

Benedict John

Over the years SRM University has grown exponentially in terms of the number of students and with it the management has had to face the gigantic task of addressing all their grievances.

Many a time the students are unaware about the concerned authorities to report their grievances to and are left disappointed, in many cases even suffering silently. “This has created a general sense of disappointment among the students who often feel let down by the college. It is with the idea to change this that the grievance cell was set up”, says Mrs Anuradha Parakhata, Director for Student Affairs.

“The management has also set up functional teams looked after by the students themselves to look into the areas they're involved in and bring to the management's notice...”

She adds that the management aims to make SRM University student centric and the President has taken it upon himself to ensure that this happens.

Mr P. Sathyanarayan, The President, SRM University has welcomed students to directly express to him their grievances through the setting up of an E-mail account (thepresident@srmuniv.ac.in) that he monitors himself. Apart from this there also exists another Email id (grievance@srmuniv.ac.in) taken care of by the grievance cell that

look into any problems faced by the students. This move has been greatly appreciated by both students and parents who have been constantly writing in to both E-mail accounts. Sandeep Mishra, a 3rd year Engineering and Electronics student says that, “this is an excellent move because the students now feel much more comfortable to exchange their grievances directly with the President on both academic and non academic issues.” The management has also

set up functional teams looked after by the students themselves in areas they are involved in and bring to the management's notice the various grievances and their possible solutions. The various departments include committee for discipline, committee for campus outlets monitoring, mess committee, hostel and campus security committee, placement committee, Board of studies, general, etc. The idea is to proactively bring change and empower students.

It is the dream of the President to see a student empowered, disappointment free environment within SRM University, and a giant leap towards achieving that has already been taken.

Emerging Trends at NCETICT 2012

Anirudh Mani

The National Conference on Emerging Trends in Information and Communication Technologies (NCETICT) was organized by the Department of Computer Applications recently. The Conference was inaugurated by Mr. Murugan Kuppuswamy, Associate Vice President- ICT, iSoft, Chennai and Mr. Mahesh Manchi, Chief Information Officer, Mahindra Holidays and Resorts, accompanied by Dr. D. Narayana Rao, Director (Research), SRM University. Both, Mr. Murugan and Mr. Mahesh addressed the gathering emphasizing the importance of learning, listening and the process of thinking and accepting a new concept.

This ‘Open to All’ Conference first took place in 2007 and since then the number of participants has steadily grown, with a total number of 48 Papers being received this year. The wide variety of entries covered topics from various fields including ‘Networks’, ‘Data Warehousing’ and the very popular ‘Cloud

Computing’. Out of the 48 papers received, 42 made it to the next stage and after further scrutiny 30 papers were selected to be presented during the Conference.

NCETICT 2012 saw participation from students as far away as New Delhi this year-other states being Andhra Pradesh and a good number from Tamil Nadu, including a team from SRM University. Papers from two teams stood out from the rest and were regarded as the best Papers this year. One was a team from DMI College of Engineering which presented a Paper on the Analysis of Parkinson's Disease using an Android Application and the other team was from Satyabhama University which presented a Paper on Minimizing Energy Consuming MAC schedule for Clusters of Radiation Monitoring Sensors. The team from Satyabhama had been working on this topic as Director ate of Science and Technology (DST) Project for some time and their Paper received a lot of positive reviews at the Conference.



Representatives from National Instruments seen here with director E&T

Inauguration of LabVIEW academy

Staff Writer

A small step for man...
A giant leap for mankind...

These words of the first man on the moon were well applied by department of ICE. The department unveiled its LabVIEW academy by cutting of ribbon of the Virtual Instrumentation laboratory to equip the students with a tool that will empower them to achieve greater heights in Instrumentation and Control Engineering. On the inaugural day, the director of E&T of SRM University was present accompanied by the HoD Dr.A.Vimala Juliet, Mr.S.Dhanabal, Academic Manager, National Instruments, India and Mr.Visweswaran,

Academic Technical Consultant, National Instruments, Bangalore. Mr.Dhanapal signed the MOU with the Director (E&T), SRM University.

The HoD, Dr.A.Vimala Juliet, motivated the students to utilize this opportunity and gave a glimpse of Alumni students who made their mark in National and International Conference using LabVIEW platform. Mr.Visweswaran, gave a motivated presentation and boosted the students to work with LabVIEW and enjoy the different vistas of engineering. The program ended on a happy note by some exciting videos shown by Mr. Visweswaran. The event was co-ordinated by a student team.

858 placed in TCS, WIPRO takes 305 students...

Kumar Dattani

As the placement season is in full swing this semester, more and more students are getting their basics right and gearing up for the written exams and the interviews.

Almost 858 students have got placed until now from various branches. Of the 858 already placed, 102 have bagged the Engineering and Allied Services jobs. "More number of students could have been placed in the Engineering and Allied Services jobs if they would have prepared well for their core subjects," said Prof. S. Ganapathy, Dean, Placements.

Reports from the TCS state that, "The percentages of students of SRM University who have cleared the TCS written test from all branches are higher this year as compared to last year."

"TCS had changed the pattern of its test this time due to the slowdown in the placement



Prof S Ganapathy, Dean Placement and Placement officer with Gourav Thakkar, Year IV, CSE.

market. Instead of the usual 35 questions that it asked in the written test, the numbers of questions have been reduced to 30. The questions this time had more focus on the logical thinking", said Amrutha Murali, a student of Biotechnology Department. TCS this time offered a package of ₹ 3.1 lacs for Undergraduate students

and ₹ 3.2 lacs for Postgraduate students.

Gourav Thakkar, Final year, CSE was placed in a Japanese company, Works Applications Co. Ltd., a company providing Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solutions. He was offered a posting in Singapore and a package of ₹ 42 lacs.

"Give me a picture and I'll write you a poem"

Rohini Bothra

Samarendra Patra a 3rd year mechanical student from SRM University, Ramapuram campus, is an young poet and says that poetry is his hobby and passion. He draws inspiration from his surroundings, the suffering of beggars, terrorism,— etc. Mostly writing on peace he says he also looks up at Tagore and connects to his poetry. "Tagore's poetry has profundity and depth. His poetry, like mine is also drawn from nature", he said. When asked of his views on modern poetry he adds that the world today is full of materialism. The writers and poets today should concentrate on trying to spread hope and happiness amongst those who need it rather than write about useless things.

This poet who started his career when he was in grade 3 now writes in 3 languages – Hindi, Oriya and English. But his journey has not been

easy. In grade 9 he faced his 1st rejection- a Hindi poem for his school magazine was rejected on the grounds that it did not have a strong base after which he did not write for 4 years. His English teacher Ms. Sujata Pani helped him get back on his feet along with support from his family. Samarendra has a few books to his name. The first one is 'My musings-the poetry within' followed by 'Mind Painting' and 'Indus Valley'. He has also co-authored 'Shaping my Dreams'. He is currently editing a book called 'Hummingbird' with the assistance of Fountain Pen Guild which contains poems from over 80 writers from 20 different countries. His achievements don't end here. In June, 2012 he attended the World Poetry International Peace Festival in Canada where he was the 1st Indian to have won awards like the World Poetry Youth Ambassador, World Poetry Youth Team Member and so on.

Maths Club conducts IMF-2012

About 700 students from various departments participate...

AKSHUN OJHA

The Department of Mathematics on behalf of Sri Ramanujan Mathematics Club of SRM University, Kattankulathur recently hosted Intra Mathematics Festival (IMF)-2012. Packed with nine nerve tickling events i.e. Dumb-C, Crossword, Quiz, Olympiad, IQ Test, NFS Maths, Puzzles, Math Talk and Maths Exhibit, the event was conducted for two days and received an active participation of students.

The Chief Guest for IMF - 2012 was the Director of the Chennai Mathematical Institute, Dr. Rajeeva Karandikar. In his address, he enlightened the students about the number theory of Sri Ramanujan and its wide usage in cryptography and password encoding algorithms. The fest had the preliminary and main rounds for Crossword, Dumb-C and Quiz and individual



Students picking their brains in IMF-2012

rounds for IQ Test, Olympiad, Puzzles, NFS Maths, Math Talk and Maths Exhibit.

The winners of the events were: Rishi Raj Singh (Mechanical, 3rd year) for Olympiad; Surabhi Gupta (CSE, 1st year) for Puzzles; Shravan Ravi (Mechanical, 4th

year) for Math Talk; Ashwin Subramaniam, Nikhil Ramesh and Aakash (ECE, 1st year) for Dumb-C; Shravan Ravi (Mechatronics, 4th year), Krishna Murthy (Biotech, 4th year), Siddhant Virani (Mechatronics, 4th year) for Quiz; Akhil Dureja

(CSE, 1st year) for IQ; Sarthak Tandon, Ashish Mishra and Shivam Gaur (CSE, 1st year) for Crossword; CW Ashok, K Bhargavi and G Bharadwaj for NFS; Shilpa Rani (CSE, 1st year) for Maths exhibit. The fest ended with the distribution

of prizes to the winners of the events by the Head, Department of Mathematics, Dr.K.Ganesan. The winners of the IMF will be participating in the Engineering Mathematics Festival (EMF) organised by the club in the next semester.

... SAE India 2012 Championship

Other subsystems include double wishbone suspension with bell crank mechanism, anti-Ackerman steering system; dual cylinder all round disc brakes, MIG welded tubular chassis, etc. The car is capable of achieving a top speed of 110 km/hr and weighs only 370 kg. It produces a torque of 59 Nm at 2500 rpm. The team's main sponsor was Apollo Tyres and other co-sponsors were Haathi Chaap, Amaron, BKT, Sona, SSCO and Ashlok.

The entire production process consisted of three phases namely design, fabrication and testing. The design phase was completed in November last year. The fabrication phase was performed at the fabrication bay and set around December. The testing

phase was held from March to August after which the car was transported to BIC. Pritam Reddy, captain of the winning team of 25, said, "We won because we had finished designing the car by March. We utilised the time in testing our car on all criteria and modifications. Last year, our car could not qualify the endurance test. We worked day and night on that front throughout the year."

"Testing has been the key phase. Here is where the car was refined and improved," says Mr. E Jayabalaji, Assistant Professor, Automobile Engineering who is also the faculty advisor of team Camber Racing.

The competition consisted of various events spread over four



The team Apollo camber racing - champions of SUPRASAE - 2012

days. Vehicle had to go through three qualifying rounds in the first two days in order to participate in the dynamic events. The first was technical inspection to check the compliance of the car with the rule book. The Beast was the first and the only car to clear the tech inspection on the first day amongst 66 teams. The noise, tilt and master kill switch tests were conducted on the second day followed by the brake test. Again the car proved its mettle in the brake test and qualified in the first attempt. The static events like design evaluation,

marketing presentation, cost evaluation, etc. were conducted on the same day. On day three, the team proceeded for the dynamic events, starting from the acceleration test, followed by skid-pad and autocross. The performance of both the drivers in the dynamic events was commendable. Day four featured the endurance test where 25 qualified teams, raced four laps under the supervision of the first internationally licensed race steward of India, Fahren Vora. The drivers of the team- Vishnu Prasad and Shidhartha

Kumar De wonderfully drove the vehicle through in the endurance run and overtook several cars along the way.

The team was placed second in three out of four dynamic events namely autocross, skid pad and endurance. The rest was earned as points from all other events, which tallied up to place them as the Overall National Champions of SUPRASAE-2012.

With the aim of defending the title, the team has already recruited fresh talent among the second years and is set to repeat history in SUPRASAE-2013!



The Buddh International circuit Greater Noida

Pinnacle of its Kind – Aaruush'12

Joel Vasanth
Saipriya.S.D

“There has never been a better time to be a technologist,” stated Mr. Rajan Anandan, Head Google India when he took the stage at Aaruush 2012, the National Level Techno-Management fest of SRM University, which was held recently at the SRM University, Kattankulathur campus. In its sixth edition this year, it has not only witnessed participation of 15,000 students, but also succeeded at imposing its theme, ‘Aaruush towards Sustainability’, through various avenues in the fest like reusing printed sheets and usage of recycled paper. The Chief Guest at the inaugural ceremony was Dr. P. Sivakumar, Director, Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE), DRDO. He spoke about the advancements in defense research and opportunities available in this field.

Aaruush began with an inter-school quiz- ‘Swastika’ being conducted in schools in six cities across Tamil Nadu with participation of over 500 students. Another event which saw over 360 participants was the Sports Week where students of the University competed in various sports such as basketball, cricket, tennis and badminton. A Computer Aided Engineering Workshop on computer based designing software was conducted by the Conrods and Camber Racing team in association with Aaruush Konvolve, an inter-departmental multi-disciplinary project competition which was also conducted preceding Aaruush. With over 12 road-



Students participating in Aaruush'12

shows and events such as ‘Aaruush Halt’, the Aaruush Concert and Aaruush Carnival the fest was all set to kick off in style.

The guest lecture by Dr. Sridhar.K.N.Rao, Lead Researcher, SRM Research Institute, Bangalore was focused on cloud computing while the panel discussion with Dr.Richard Matthew Stallman, Founder of the Free Software Foundation, stressed on the importance of free software and digital rights management. Dr.Kumara Sanjaya, Product Manager, Philips, India delivered an informative presentation regarding career options in the healthcare and IT industries. Mr. Rajan Anandan, Head, Google India, addressed the audience regarding the aspects in which Google intended to give back to the society, namely,

digitizing education, promoting women entrepreneurship and helping small scale businesses.

The Android Workshop by Faduo Engineers taught students to construct new apps on the Android OS while a Crime Scene Investigation workshop was conducted by the Indian Forensic Organization. Along the same lines, the cyber security workshop, ‘Information Securities and Cyber Forensics’ also proved to be a hit. ‘6th Sense’ by ARK Technosolutions on advanced robotics as well as a workshop on Solarbotics were conducted.

The 41 events were categorized into nine domains namely Robogyan, Yudhamme, Praesentatio, Maggeficie, Fundaz, Konstruktion, Bluebook, X-zone and online. The special events this year were Xtreme RC, The Harlequins Quest, Corporate

Walk, Pick Trick and UV cricket.

The main highlight of the fest was the Fusion Night which showcased Laser Show, Hand Shadowgraphy and Sand Art. The Laser Show was a visual treat as the history of Aaruush unraveled in front of the eager crowd. The talented hands of Sabyasachi and Amar Sen sent out some strong messages about the environment through Sand Art and Hand Shadowgraphy, in conjunction with the theme of the fest. The Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO), displayed models of some of their projects such as small scale models of their war tanks, missiles, etc. while Robo Expo saw unique gadgets like gesture bots, etc. Actor and theatre personality, Rajat Kapoor hosted the Main Quiz, which had the winners taking home

prizes worth above ₹.45,000. Following this, the movie ‘Dark Knight Rises’ was screened to an audience of around 4,000 students. The Unconference 2.0- a popular event from last edition, was focused on the topic ‘Beyond Engineering’. Aaruush'12 was associated with various NGO's such as PeTA, Greenpeace, Paper Man, Aid India and CIOSA, to augment awareness among people for social causes.

Mr.Balaji Girisaballa, Head, Yahoo! Entrepreneur Network, India addressed the audience on the importance of implementing the new ideas one has in the concluding session. The fest thus drew to a close with Mr. A. Rathinam, Convener of Aaruush appreciating the innovation and high level of professionalism in the team of Aaruush '12.

Muthucharam CR battles TB

“Ozhipom Kasam; Vithaipom Nesam”

Staff Writer

TB is Curable and Not Hereditary, Directly Observed Short Treatment Course (DOTS) is the sure cure for TB and its absolutely free says Dr.Arunagiri, State TB Officer. Muthucharam CR is the first CR in Kanchipuram district to focus on TB. Muthucharam CR is to produce special radio series on Tuberculosis in association with REACH foundation, Chennai

under project Axshya. Personal hygiene is very important for TB prevention and TB may affect anyone says Dr.Nalini Krishnan, Director, REACH foundation. The first episode will go on air on Oct 18th, 2012 morning between 11 am to 11.30 am and a repeat broadcast at 2.30 pm to 3 pm the same day. This radio series tries to project the awareness of Tuberculosis in Kanchipuram district says M.Divyasri, Station Manager.

Literary club Prize Distribution ceremony

Staff Writer

“Communication is the key to success” says Dr.S.Usha Kalyani.

“In today's competitive world proper communication plays a vital role. Students should participate in activities which will improve their communication skills and develop their personality”, said Dr.S.Usha Kalyani, Dean, Faculty of Science and Humanities and IAS academy, SRM University, Vadapalani. She was presiding over the “prize distributions

ceremony” of i – factor, the literary club of SRM university, Ramapuram.

Dr. K. Abdul Ghani, Dean SRM University, Ramapuram appreciated the students activities conducted by the literary club.

Mrs. Shakeela Sathish, Coordinator, literary club welcomed the gathering. Mrs . V.Rema, Asst. Co-ordinator introduced the chief guest to the gathering. Siddharth, creative head of the club proposed the vote of thanks.



The International delegates with the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Medical

International guest lecture @ SRM college of occupational therapy

Staff Writer

Two international delegates, Ms. Janette Foster and Ms. Helen Taylor trainees in Doctorate in clinical psychology from University of Leicester, UK along with Dr. Viruthagirinathan, Neuro psychologist and Director of CARE institute of behavioural science visited our SRM College of occupational Therapy and SRM Hospital. After the visit to college, department and hospital, the delegates gave a Guest lecture on “Orientation to counselling” in the Hospital seminar hall. Students and faculties from the college of Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Nursing and Medical attended the Lecture in the presence of Dr. Thanagaraju, Pro Vice chancellor, Medical and Dr. Chandrababha, Director, Health Sciences. The lecture was very useful and an eye opener to all the health professionals who attended the program. The session was very interactive with students and staff asking many questions and raising doubts.

Public Awareness Programme on Hypertension

“Healthy Lifestyle, healthy blood pressure.”

Saipriya S.D

“Hypertension is a silent killer with no warning signs”, said Dr. K. Gireesh, Deputy Dean, Medical college an awareness programme on hypertension. A seminar and a hypertension awareness camp held in conjunction with the programme were inaugurated by Dr. James Pandian, Dean, Medical college. The concern of hypertension becoming a global epidemic was discussed in these events organized by the Medical Education Department. The session was chaired by Prof. Dr. A. Balasubramaniam, Prof. Dr. S. Elangovan and Prof. Dr. Muthuraj. Dr. Kavitha,

Dr. Ramya Chellaiah, Dr. Suresh, Dr. Thomas Joseph, Dr. V. Sandhya and Dr. Mangayarkarasi were the speakers in the seminar.

The connection between high blood pressure and an increasing sense of stress and tension in today's youth was highlighted. Some of the important facts which were reiterated include:

- Making healthy food choices by limiting portion sizes, eating slowly, limiting intake of junk food, etc. Lesser alcohol ingestion and an increase in fresh produce consumption (fruits and vegetables)
- Reduction in sodium intake (~2gm/day).

- Continual weight-watching (maintenance of Body mass index in the range of 18 to 24).

- An active lifestyle, with adequate physical activity (taking a break from a rigorous work schedule occasionally, brisk walks every morning, cycling, swimming etc.).

- Regular measurement of blood pressure. The BP for a healthy individual is 120/80.

The programme served as a wakeup call to those caught up in their strenuous work schedules, neglecting their fitness and well being.

Impulse 2012 All India inter medical quiz

Beulah Sarah James
Amrutha Murali

SRM Medical College organized IMPULSE 2012 -an All India inter medical quiz which had over 78 teams participating in the first round, from various parts of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry.

The shortlisted semifinalist teams included four teams from Madras Medical College, 2 teams from JIPMER, a team from Chengalpettu Medical College and a team from Sri Lakshmi Narayana Medical College.

The main event was the quiz which was graced by the presence of the Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. P. Thangaraju, the Dean, Dr. James Pandian, Deputy Dean, Dr. K. Gireesh, HOD of Pathology, Dr. G. Shivasekhar and HOD of Forensic Medicine, Dr. K. Thangaraj who also addressed the audience on and off the dais.

For the final round the top six teams were selected, and tested on their knowledge in all subjects of medical importance from the grounds of Anatomy to the minuscule aspects of Medicine and Surgery. The first place was bagged by Vijay and Shantha Kumar of JIPMER. Madras Medical College and SLIMS bagged the second and third place respectively. The winning teams were awarded with cash prizes and certificates by the Dean, Dr. James Pandian and Deputy Dean, Dr. K. Gireesh.

IMPULSE 2012 also saw the unveiling of the very first “IMPULSE SOUVENIER” designed by the medical students which was dedicated to the entire medical faculty of SRM Medical College.

School of Public Health, SRM University brings out its first Public Health Research Series

Akshun Ojha

The School of Public Health, SRM University recently brought out the first of its Public Health Research Series which is a compilation of research papers by the students of the school. The Series aims at providing a platform for sharing of research work by students and faculty in the field of public health. The studies reported in this series are small pilot projects with a scope to highlight major public health issues in India.

The first issue, Volume 1 of the Series

is organised into a set of twenty five full reports and five briefs. The full reports give an elaborate description of the study objectives, methods and findings with interpretations and discussions of the authors. The briefs are unstructured concept abstracts. The studies were done by the students of the school of public health as their term project under the guidance of faculty mentors to whom they were assigned at the time of enrolment into the course.

Some of the full length articles include topics like Husbands as

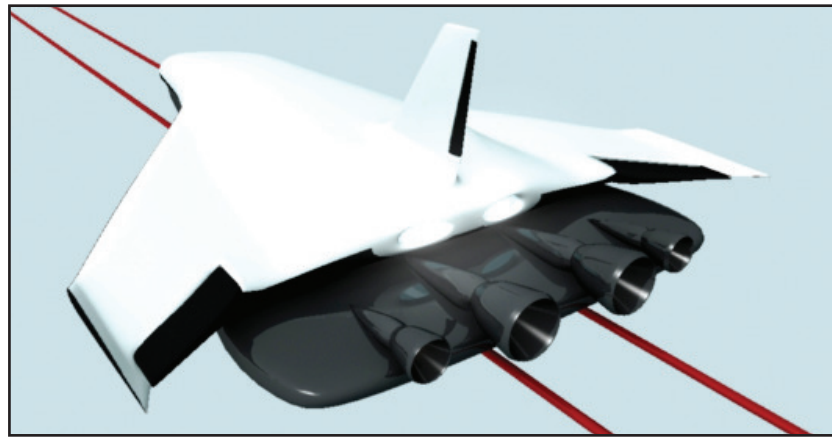
birth companions during child birth, Assessing health status among IT professionals in Chennai, Road traffic noise pollution and associated health problems among hawkers in Kolkata, etc. Likewise abstracts contain topics like Assessment of complete immunisation status among migrant people in Hosur. With these studies conducted in the length and breadth of India, some of the projects have indeed done qualitative exploration of interesting concepts and have generated important hypothesis for further testing. The journal can be sourced at the University Library.

For these students, the sky is not the limit

Sneha Sankar

With the SRMSAT, SRM University made its mark across the nation as the first private University to launch a nano-satellite into orbit in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organization. Adding on to this great achievement is the recent recognition that SRM University has received in the international arena.

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) recently conducted the Undergraduate Space Transportation Design Competition, which required participants to design, and produce a business plan for a commercial Earth-to-Orbit passenger vehicle. This competition was conducted with the aim to encourage space tourism where not only astronauts but the common man also gets an opportunity to take space rides. The team from SRM University was placed third overall, only behind Virginia Polytechnic Institute and California State Polytechnic University. This team was led by Pate Sweetie Prakash, final year Aerospace Engineering, and comprises



A digital construct of the proposed passenger vehicle- NavShitiz Vahak for the AIAA competition

final year Aerospace Engineering students Joel Alex Roy, Anku Aravind, Jeevraj Hejmady, Rajdeep Chowdhuri, Sarnavi Mahesh, and two third year Aerospace Engineering students, Ravi Shakya and Rishabh Bana. They were guided by Dr. M. Balakrishnan, Head of Department, Aerospace Engineering and Prof V. Krishnamurthy, Project Advisor from Department of Aerospace Engineering.

Their transportation vehicle, called NavShitiz Vahak has the capacity to

carry 50 passengers to orbit and the main aim is to provide this service at economical rates. The team was much appreciated for their efforts and ideas and received prize money of USD 1,000 from AIAA.

NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) recently held the NASA Green Aviation competition, inviting students to design an unmanned cargo aircraft by implementing green aviation technologies. Students of SRM

University have proven their mettle by bagging the second place worldwide. Guided by Dr. M. Balakrishnan, HoD (Aerospace Engineering), this team calls their aircraft SERA Garuda. Garuda has an innovative airframe design and reduced emission and combustion levels, thus making it an environmental friendly aircraft.

The team has now been provided with an opportunity to present their design at a student forum which will be held at the NASA Langley Research Centre, Virginia, USA. Both the projects had their different aspects divided between each of the team members according to their skill set. This enabled the team to put together ideas in their respective areas of expertise as well as to combine their knowledge in order to bring out these two successful projects.

“These achievements have opened up exciting opportunities for not only us but for all the students of SRM University as well. We are charged up and plan to continue with these projects in the future.”, says Sweetie, team leader for both the NASA and AIAA projects.

Infieon Supermileage to be the first team from SRM to enter the Shell Eco-Marathon Asia

Harish Kumar

Consisting of 8 members from various departments of engineering, Infieon Supermileage is the first team from SRM, Kattankulathur that will participate in the Shell Eco-Marathon Asia 2013, led by Dr. Leenus Jesu Martin, HOD, Automobile Engineering, SRM University as its Team Head. The team members are Siddharth Jain, Sandeep

Ganesh, Rahul Sharma, Venkata Balakrishnan and Mohan Iyengar of fourth year, Automobile engineering; Bharath S of third year, Automobile engineering; Vivek Srinivas of third year, Mechanical engineering and Rishabh Jain of second year, Automobile engineering. The event will be held at the Sepang International Circuit, Malaysia in July 2013.

Shell Eco-Marathon offers a unique challenge of achieving

maximum fuel efficiency in just one litre of fuel by building ultra fuel-efficient vehicles. Team Infieon Supermileage will compete, with gasoline as its fuel.

The highest record for 2012 in gasoline goes as far as 2,903 km/l. “These three wheeled vehicles participating in the competition deliver such ultra high fuel efficiency due to certain aspects such as light kerb weight (up to 140kg),

maintaining constant speed (40km/hr) and a tuned engine” claims Siddharth Jain who is the Team Captain of Infieon Supermileage. Also rules and regulations of the competition such as, the dimensions and other criteria have to be met.

The team which began its work in May 2012 is currently in its design phase. The team sources its financial support from the university and a few sponsors. “The team’s primary

targets are to build India’s most fuel efficient prototype and to spread green driving. Apart from these, the team plans to campaign about fuel conservation and educate visitors on ways to improve fuel mileages, reduce fuel bills and emissions” says Sandeep Ganesh, Corporate Head, Infieon Supermileage. Further information about the team and the competition can be sought from: www.infieon-supermileage.com



Team Members with the team head Dr. Leenus Jesu Martin, HoD Automobile (Centre)

INFIEON SUPERMILEAGE



Economic Growth Society of India

Staff Writer

Economic Growth Society of India (EGSI) aims to arrange Meeting, Conferences, Seminar, Workshops on the key issue with the leading agencies, Associations, Institutions, etc. The society also promotes national understandings for mutual benefits in the field of Commercial & Industrial Endeavors, Health, Education, and other relevant fields. The society has been an ardent advocate of Globalization and Liberation of Indian Economy. It supports the Government to ensure success of the Economic reforms initiated in July 1991.

EGSI organized a National Seminar on “Individual Achievement for Economic & Social Development” at New Delhi, recently. In that Seminar, National Education Leadership Award 2012 was conferred on Dr. D. Antony Ashok Kumar on behalf of SRM Institute of Hotel Management for individual contributions in the field of Education. Mr. Anil Mittal, Member of Delhi Cantonment Board, Mr. Mahesh Jaiswal, Secretary, National Front of Indian Trade Union, Madam Ms. Seema Chakravarthy, Honorable Shri. Dharendra Prasad, Former Minister of Uttaranchal, Mr. B.N. Saigal, Former Director of C.B.I are some of the other dignitaries who added colours to the Seminar.

“Karaikudi unavu thiruvizha”

Staff Writer

A tradition which has followed religiously for many years at SRM IHM returned once again this year 2012 with more gusto & freezy - THEME LUNCH.

Final year SRM students conducted a theme lunch called “KARAIKUDI UNAVU

THIRUVIZHA” recently. The theme lunch was based on the famous Chettiyar community of Karaikudi.

The ambience in the hall was transformed into a place where palatial bungalows and authentic karaikudi houses donned the walls in the form of crystal clear and flawless flex. More additions into the ambience

were the traditional clay & wooden puppets, equipments used and flowers decked in Uruli, Karaikudi saras and household utensils. The most talked about the theme lunch was the sumptuous food, the taste and flavor of which still lingers in our taste bud.

The menu included a variety of traditional dishes which started as Vasantha Neer a welcome drink followed by sweet and savory kulipaniyarams, Prawn & Quail briyanis to karuvepellae Kozhi varuval to Murangakai kozhi kulambu to the dessert Elaneer Payasam. The event was glanced by chef “Malgudi Kavitha” from Hotel Savera who appreciated the efforts and gave useful tips to excited and eager students. The event witnessed a video clip on the origin and history of Karaikudi chettiyars followed by instrumental carnatic music.



Karaikudi saras, utensils and Puppets.

“Punjabi Dhaba”

Staff Writer

The final year SRM Diploma students of SRM IHM conducted a theme lunch on Punjabi Dhaba

The students brought in the feel and the ambience of the real Dhaba which is usually a common sight on National highways providing a much needed break/relief and Dhaba food to rejuvenate the tired lorry drivers.

The venue which was transformed into a real Dhaba was done by a big hut with the frontage covered by bricks and clay and the dishes placed on them having blackened bottomed aluminium hundi. Colorful chunnis decorated the walls, rope cofs (Khatiyas) were arranged for the guest to be seated. Stainless steel thalis and katoris with stainless steel glasses were modes of eating the food. The highlight of the event was Royal Enfield Bullet

and the old bicycle which are used for transportaion till today.

The raw feel and rustic looks of the venue made the guests Chef. Balvinder Singh and Mr. Jagdeesh of the RAINTREE HOTEL feel that they were in a real Dhaba. Ambience adding to the food, followed starting with LASSI and CHAANCH to Tandoori Murgh, Murgh Makhni, Palak Paneer, Baigan Bhartha to Naan, Roti, Stuffed parathas and Kulchi to Dal Makhni, Chawal to dessert like Gajjar ka Halwa and Malai Jamun.

Chef. Balvinder stressed the importance of basics and not forgetting the same to be a successful chef. The true frontiers and the vast expanse of Punjab starting from Lahore were a great learning experience for the aspiring boys and girls.

The students donned the traditional Dhaba costume of kurta, lungi and the turban as headgear.



SRM IHM Students in traditional Dhaba costume

Top recognition to FSH Researcher



A.Jesu Arockia Raj

Spectrum Reporter

International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England has recognized Dr. A. Jesu Arockia Raj, Research Professor, (DBT Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellow), Department of Biotechnology, Faculty of Science and Humanities, SRM University, Kattankulathur Campus as one of the ‘Top 100 Scientist 2012’. The International Biographical Centre is a world leader in biographical publishing. In existence for the last forty years its range of reference titles have earned an international reputation of unrivalled scope and integrity.

And the American Biographical Institute, USA has awarded ‘Scientific Award of Excellence for 2012’ to Dr Jesu. The American Biographical Institute is steeped in tradition since 1967, and has pledged to maintain its status as a respected independent source of biographical information on the world’s most accomplished men and women.



ICI Secretary Inaugurating the 'Students Chapter'

"Students should channelize their energy into research and similar constructive means"

Staff Writer

“Uncertainty in the real world can be better explained using Fuzzy theory. It is the paradigm shift in the field of Mathematics,” said Dr. W.B. Vasantha Kandasamy, Dept. of Mathematics, IIT Chennai. She spoke in detail about the use of Fuzzy logic in image processing, data mining, Neural networks, artificial intelligence and their real time applications in day today life.

She was delivering a special lecture on “Fuzzy logic and its applications” as part of “Ramanujan@125” organized by FRACTAL, the Mathematics Association of SRM University, Ramapuram at TRP Auditorium. Head of the department Mrs. Shakeela Sathish welcomed the gathering. Dr. C. Dharuman, Professor, Dept. of Mathematics introduced the Chief guest and Mrs. H. Mary Henrietta Asst. Prof proposed the vote of thanks.

Science association- forum of sciences

Staff Writer

The Department of Physics arranged a Guest Lecture by Dr.R.Gopalakrishnan, Associate Professor of Physics, Anna University, Chennai, recently in the TRP Auditorium for I year B.Tech students. Dr.L.Sudha, Professor & Head welcomed the gathering. Mrs.T.Beena Assistant Professor (Sr.G) introduced the Chief Guest Dr.R.Gopalakrishnan, Associate Professor of Physics, Anna University, Chennai.

The Chief Guest Dr. R.Gopalakrishnan delivered the special address followed by an excellent lecture on “Materials for Advanced Technology” in the technical session. He also explained about Societal Transformation and described the funds and various scholarships provided by Government of India. Mr.M.Saravanan, Asst.Professor proposed the vote of thanks.



Participants with the Chief Guest.



Chief Guest releasing the symposium souvenir

Festec 12

National level technical symposium

Spectrum Reporter

The National Level Technical Symposium “Festec 12” was organized by the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Valliammai Engineering College in association with IETE student’s forum, recently. Prof. Komala James, HoD-ECE welcomed everyone. The Presidential address was given by Dr. M. Murugan, Vice-Principal, VEC. The Chief Guest, Dr.P.H.Rao, Scientist ‘E’, SAMEER – Centre for Electromagnetics, Taramani, Chennai, gave the inaugural address and released the symposium souvenir.

More than 1,200 students from various engineering colleges participated in the symposium and revealed their talents in various events like paper presentation, poster presentation, robotics, circuit debugging, project display, technical quiz, gaming, Dumb charades, treasure hunt and adzap. Mr. Virupakshan Krishnamoorthi, Principal, Engineering Academy, Infosys Ltd, Chennai, delivered the valedictory address and honoured the winners by distribution of cash awards and certificates. The Assistant Professors, Mr.M.Baskaran and Mrs.M.Latha were the conveners

There was a tremendous support from the student community for the technical festival..

for the symposium. Various committees were formed with staff and student members for the successful conduct of the programme.

There was a tremendous support from the students community for the technical festival which was very evident from the number of papers received. More than 300 papers were received and parallel sessions were conducted for paper presentations which were judged by eminent and experienced Professors. The students gained lot of knowledge and leadership skills and are eagerly waiting for the conduct of the symposium “Festec’2K13”.

ICI Student Chapter Inaugural

Staff Writer

Indian Concrete Institute Student Chapter was inaugurated at SRM University, Ramapuram Campus, recently. Dr. T.Ch.Madhavi, Head of the Dept. of Civil Engg, welcomed the gathering.

Dr. S.Mohan, Director, NITTTR, was the special guest of the occasion. He exhorted that the chapter should be active and students should actively participate in technical events and update their knowledge base.

Er.R.Radhakrishnan, Secretary General, ICI spoke on the importance of the student chapters and its benefits to the students.

Er. Jayasankar, Chairman, ICI, TNC, was the Guest Speaker and delivered a lecture highlighting the necessity of quality construction which can be obtained by using high quality materials.

During the inauguration, certificates were distributed to the students. About 190 students have become the members of the student chapter. The Registrar, SRM University and Dean, SRM university, Ramapuram campus graced the occasion. The Registrar, Dr. N.Sethuraman said that students should be active in conducting research and SRM university always extended its support for young researchers to coordinate with ICI, he said. Dean, SRM university mentioned that ICI students chapter serves as a platform for knowledge sharing and the chapter would keep the students technically active.



ICI Secretary Inaugurating the 'Students Chapter'



Audience at a glance

From the desk of The Chairman SRM Group

The Chairman of the SRM Group of Educational Institutions, Mr. Ravi Pachamoothoo, has asked the SRM Community to send in their complaints, concerns and suggestions to him at srmchairman@gmail.com or through sms to 99400 88414 (text messages only).

Faculty of SRM University, NCR campus wins award

Spectrum Writer

Dr. Vineet Bajaj, Head, Department of Civil Engineering, SRM University, NCR Campus won the Indian Concrete Institute (I.C.I.) Best Paper Award on Construction Techniques during the I.C.I. 29th AGM and annual award ceremony.

The award was presented to him by I.C.I. President, Er. Jose Kurian for his paper published in the ICI Journal edition of April-June 2011.

The paper was part of Ph.D. work on "Flexural Fatigue Strength of Steel-Polypropylene Hybrid Fibre Reinforced Concrete (HFRC)".

The paper presented the probabilistic analysis of HFRC and its fatigue life can be modeled by two-parameter Weibull distribution. It reported the beneficial effect of replacement of steel fibres to that of polypropylene fibres in the field on civil engineering and how it reduced the variability in the fatigue life distribution of



Dr. Vineet Bajaj, Head of Civil Engg. Dept., SRM University, NCR Campus receiving his award from Er. Jose Kurian, President, Indian Concrete Institute.

Steel Fibre Reinforced Concrete. On the occasion, Prof. N. P. Rajamane, Head, Center for Advance Concrete Research, SRM University, Kattankulathur

was also present. In his speech, Dr. Vineet Bajaj, dedicated his award to his Ph.D. supervisor, Dr. S. P. Singh, Head, NIT Jalandhar.

‘மென்தமிழ்’ மென்பொருள் வெளியீட்டு விழா

கணினியில் தமிழைத் தவறில்லாமல் பயன்படுத்துவதற்கு உதவும்

திரு. இராமசாமி நினைவுப் பல்கலைக்கழகத் தமிழ்ப்பேராயக் கணினித்தமிழ்க் கல்வித்துறையின் சார்பில் 20.09.2012 வியாழன் அன்று NDS Lingsoft Solutions மொழித்தொழில்நுட்ப நிறுவனம் உருவாக்கிய ‘மென்தமிழ்’ மென்பொருள் வெளியீட்டு விழா நடைபெற்றது.

கணினியில் தமிழைத் தட்டச்சு செய்யும்போது ஏற்படுகின்ற சொற்பிழை, சந்திப்பிழை, பிறமொழிக் கலப்பு போன்றவற்றைச் சுட்டும் வகையில் தாம் உருவாக்கிய மென்தமிழின் செயல்முறை, பயன்பாடு, சிறப்புகள் போன்றவற்றை விளக்கி, சென்னைப் பல்கலைக்கழக மேனாள் தமிழ்மொழித்துறைத் தலைவரும் தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் சிறப்புநிலைப் பேராசிரியருமான முனைவர் ந. தெய்வசுந்தரம் அறிமுகவுரையாற்றினார்.

இவ் விழாவிற்கு SRM பல்கலைக்கழகத் துணைவேந்தரும் தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் தலைவருமான முனைவர் மு. பொன்னவைக்கோ அவர்கள் தலைமையேற்றார். அவர் தமது தலைமையுரையில் தமிழ்ச் சொல்லாளர் எனப்படும் Tamil Wordprocessor வளர்ந்துவந்த வரலாற்றைக் கூறி, தமிழ் மென்பொருள் உருவாக்கத்தில் இந்த முயற்சி மிகவும் போற்றத்தகுந்தது எனப் பாராட்டினார். மேலும், இத்தகைய மென்பொருளை உருவாக்கிய நிறுவனத்தையும் இதனை மக்கள் பயன்பாட்டுக்கு வழங்குவதற்காக முன்னெடுக்கும் தமிழ்ப்பேராயக் கணினித்தமிழ்க் கல்வித்துறையின் செய்பாடுகளைப் பற்றியும் விளக்கிப் பேசினார்.

இம் மென்பொருளைத் தமிழ்நாடு அரசின் உயர்கல்வித்துறை முதன்மைச் செயலர் முனைவர் தி.ஸ்ரீ. ஸ்ரீதர் இ.ஆ.ப. அவர்கள் வெளியீட்டு, தமது உரையில் மென்பொருளை உருவாக்கியுள்ளதைப் பாராட்டியும் கணினித்தமிழ்த் தொழில்நுட்பத்தை மேம்படுத்த மேற்கொள்ளப்படும் முயற்சிகளுக்கு அரசு உறுதுணையாக இருக்கும் என்றும் சிறப்புரையாற்றினார்.

மென்பொருளின் முதல் படியைப் பெற்றுக்கொண்டு பேசிய தமிழ் இணையக் கல்விக்கழக இயக்குநர் முனைவர் ப.அர. நக்கீரன் அவர்களும் இரண்டாம் படியைப் பெற்றுக்கொண்டு பேசிய செம்மொழித் தமிழாய்வு மத்திய நிறுவனப் பதிவாளர் முனைவர் மு. முத்துவேலு அவர்களும் கணினியில் தமிழை மேம்படுத்தும் வகையில் பலரும் இதுபோன்ற பணிகளில் ஈடுபடவேண்டும் என்றும் இதுபோன்று உருவாக்கப்படும் தமிழ் மென்பொருளுக்கு ஆதரவு வழங்கவேண்டும் என்றும் கருத்துரைத்தனர்.

SRM பல்கலைக்கழகப் பதிவாளர் முனைவர் நா. சேதுராமன் அவர்கள் தன் வாழ்த்துரையில் பல்வேறு நிலையில் வளர்ந்துள்ள தமிழ் கணினித்தமிழிலும் குறிப்பிடத்தக்க வளர்ச்சியைப் பெற்றுவருகிறது. மெல்லத் தமிழ் இனி கணினியில் வெல்லும் என்றும் இதுபோன்று தமிழுக்குப் பல்வேறு நிலைகளில் பல மென்பொருள்கள் உருவாகவேண்டும் என்றும் வாழ்த்துரை வழங்கினார்.

கணினித்தமிழ்க் கல்வித்துறையின் ஒருங்கிணைப்பாளர் திரு. இல. சுந்தரம் வரவேற்றுப் பேசினார். தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் ஒருங்கிணைப்பாளர் முனைவர் கோ. பாக்கியவதி ரவி நன்றி கூறினார். இவ் விழாவினை SRM கலை அறிவியல் கல்லூரியின் தமிழ்த்துறை உதவிப்பேராசிரியர் சு. தளபதி தொகுத்து வழங்கினார்.



இடமிருந்து வலம்: இல. சுந்தரம், முனைவர் ந. தெய்வசுந்தரம், முனைவர் நா. சேதுராமன் முனைவர் தி.ஸ்ரீ. ஸ்ரீதர், முனைவர் மு. பொன்னவைக்கோ, முனைவர் ப.அர. நக்கீரன், முனைவர் மு. முத்துவேலு, முனைவர் கோ. பாக்கியவதி ரவி.

SRM Defending Champions In Volleyball Tournament

Staff Reporter

The 2nd State Level Volleyball Men Tournament (Ayya Nadar Trophy) was organized by Ayya Nadar Janaki Ammal College, Sivakasi from 12-14 September in which SRM University beat STC College, Pollacahi (25/21, 25/23, 25/22) and ANJA College,

Sivakasi (25/12, 25/14, 25/15) to move on to the semi-finals. Here, they beat Loyola College, Chennai (25/12, 25/14, 25/17) and moved on to the finals only to be titled 'Defending Champions' beating STC, Pollacahi (21/25, 21/25, 25/16, 25/20, 15/11). V. Sathishkumar, 3rd BSc. SRM University was awarded the title of Best Player.



The team with Astra



The winning team with the trophy

Kongu Trophy

Staff Reporter

The 13th Kongu Trophy (state level inter college tournament) was organized in Kongu Engineering College, Erode from 7th-11th September. In Basketball (Women), SRM beat Pavai Engineering College, Nammakkal (55/27) and Kongu Engineering College, Erode (55/22) entering into the finals where it beat St. Josephs Engineering College,

Chennai (50/41).

In Volleyball (men), SRM beat Gandhigram University (25/12, 25/12) and Sri Sankara University, Chennai (25/21, 25/17). In the finals, SRM University beat Panimalar Engineering College, Chennai (25/21, 25/22). In Badminton (women) SRM stood second and in men's category, we were placed 3rd. In Basketball (men) we stood 3rd and in Tabletennis (men) we ranked third.



The teams with the Kongu Trophies

Team ASTRA Racing ranks 7th overall in design at BIC, Noida

Staff Writer

Supra SAE India 2012 is where students design and fabricate a formula type race vehicle that satisfies a set of rules. The students are also expected to plan marketing strategies for the vehicle. The event was organized at Buddh International Circuit, Noida in September, 2012

The Team comprises of 23 final year students guided by a faculty advisor. The first stage is a virtual stage in which the team presented its designs to an expert panel from various automotive industries at ANSYS office Pune. The designs were approved and the team qualified for the finals. Only 65 teams were selected out of 110 teams.

Astra (the name given to our car) was transported to Buddh International circuit on the 26th of August. The event started in the north stand at the BIC, with the weighing of the cars. Our car was one of the

lightest vehicles at just 449 kg with driver. We were able to achieve this without the use of any expensive ultra-light material. The competitors showed appreciation and envy over the in the car. Vigorous technical inspections started soon after and the car was one of the few cars that were approved without any major modifications. The car also survived the tilt test and the noise test without any problem. Only 35 teams out of 65 were able to achieve this feat. Our vehicle also had the fastest driver egress time at 2.8 seconds (maximum allowed was 5 second).

However we were unable to clear the final test- the brake test as one of our brake line (front left) had developed a leak during transportation. This prevented the brakes from locking simultaneously which is one of the requirements of the brake test. Thus we were not eligible to participate in the endurance round of the contest for which

only 25 teams qualified.

Seeing the track worthiness of the vehicle the organizers felt that we deserved a chance to drive our car in the Buddh international circuit. We were given two laps, a little over 10 Km to drive the car. The car performed exceptionally and finished the laps without any issues. This proved that our vehicle was designed to be track-worthy and rakish.

We also impressed the design judges with our technical reports and we ranked 7th overall in engineering design evaluation. The judges from Maruti Suzuki were really impressed with our Hand clutch design in which we ranked among the top 3. Unfortunately we lost the award for innovation as we did not qualify for endurance. The entire experience was really enriching and beneficial not only to the team but also to the entire department which saw the development of a formula type vehicle from scratch.

SRM Shines at Volleyball Tournament

10th Kamarajar Trophy (State Level Volleyball Men Tournament) was organized by Nadar Magajan S. Vellacahmy Nadar College, Madurai from 2-5 September where SRM beat TC Arts College, Madurai (25/12, 25/7); Jamal College, Trichy (25/15, 25/23, 25/22) and Gandhigram University, Dindugal (25/15, 25/13, 25/13). In the semi finals they beat ST College, Pollachi (25/15, 25/20, 25/19) entering the finals where it beat Panimalar Engineering College, Chennai (25/22, 25/20, 25/22). The best player of the tournament title was awarded to Jerome Vinith, 2nd BBA, SRM University. To add to the prestige, SRM Volleyball Men's team has been winning 1st place for the last 6 years continuously.

SRM, bags 1st, 2nd and 3rd place In evangeline memorial trophy

Spectrum Reporter

The 20th Evangeline Memorial Trophy (South India level) was organized by Karunya University, Coimbatore from 29th August-1st September. SRM University beat SNG College, Kerala (25/23, 25/15) in Volleyball. In the league it beat St. Joseph's College, Trichy (25/11, 25/14) and Sathyabama University (25/14, 25/23) to enter the finals where it beat Vels University (25/23, 25/22). SRM's men Volleyball team has won 1st place for the last 5 years. Our varsity was runners-up in football (men) and got 3rd place in Basketball (men and women).

CLASSIC TAKE...

THE HOLOCAUST MOVEMENT

**Sneha Sankar
Kumar Dattani**

The year was 1944. Anne Frank and her family had been in hiding for the past two years with the fear of being discovered, captured and separated from each other. But there was a glimmer of hope for them. Papa had said the War would soon be over and life would change.

Anne Frank's story is just one example of the atrocities that millions of Jews across Europe had to endure as a result of the ideals and actions of one single person who managed to change the course of history as we know it- Adolf Hitler. His fascist regime and the sufferings of all the victims were an inspiration for many books and movies.

Even Charlie Chaplin daringly chose to make a satirical movie on this theme named 'The Great Dictator'. It was his first talking movie, depicting the atrocities on the Jews and also made a mockery of the decision making abilities of Hitler. However, it was the climax that carried the real

message, it was a speech given by a Jewish barber mistaken for Hitler where he calls for a new world order where everyone is ready to help each other.

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas was adapted by director Mark Herman from a book of the same name. This movie shows the treatment meted out to the inmates of a Nazi extermination camp through the innocent eyes of two eight year old boys; one the son of the Commandant of the camp and the other an inmate of the camp. The movie explores the unlikely friendship forged by these boys and the consequences of such a relationship during such dangerous times.

Schindler's List is a 1993 drama film directed by Steven Spielberg. Based on a true story, this movie is about Oskar Schindler, a German businessman who saves the lives of thousands of Jews from the Holocaust Movement by employing them in his factory. Starring notable actors such as Liam Neeson, Ben Kingsley and Ralph Fiennes, this movie was a box office success and won seven Academy Awards and several other accolades.



'The Pianist', a film by Roman Polanski starring Oscar winning actor Adrien Brody portrays the biographical account of a Polish-Jewish musician Władysław Szpilman. It is the story of a pianist who escapes deportation and takes part in the Warsaw Uprisings. He is ultimately

found by a German officer, Hosenfeld who gives him room in an attic with a piano but is not allowed to play it in order to avoid capture. Szpilman lived till the age of 88 and continued to play piano in Poland.

While the War did leave an indelible mark on the lives

of the common man, it could never extinguish the flame of human spirit. The survivors of the Holocaust movements are shining examples of how one can rise above all tragedies, no matter what life throws at you. And these tragedies, will only add more value to human life.

Internet Goes Gangnam!

**Lavanya Durai
Saipriya.S.D**

If you don't live under a rock, it is safe to assume that you'd have come across the new YouTube hit, "GANGNAM STYLE" by popular Korean Pop artist PSY. With over 2.5 billion views, this song is infecting the minds of teenagers as they watch PSY gallop around. You don't have to understand Korean to enjoy this song; just the few phrases you hear will get stuck in your head. The reactions to the song range from, "What on earth is he doing?!" to uncontrollable laughter as one replays it for the hundredth time. The video has spawned so many parodies and covers that one loses count. It's safe to say the cheesy dance moves have taken over pop culture, what with other celebrities doing the trademark PSY move in their concerts too! It wouldn't be surprising if a massive flash mob goes OPPA GANGNAM STYLE anytime soon.

Watch this space to keep track on what's making waves on the internet.

NERD PRIDE...

Rain man phenomenon

**AnkurBhuyan
S.Siddharth**

The human brain, a beauty and an ultimate product of constant evolution of life has yet not been understood in true light and entirety. Along with performing millions of mundane acts, it composes concertos, issues manifestos and comes up with elegant solutions to equations. It's the wellspring of all human feelings, behaviours, experiences as well as the repository of memory and self-awareness. So it's no surprise that the brain remains a mystery unto itself. The ability to think and recognise patterns or

even possessing a basic memory is an astonishing feat of biological renaissance that has taken millions of years in the making. The million dollar question that still exists is whether we have stretched the limits of the brain or are we yet to unlock its true potential. Adding to this mystery is the contention that humans "only" employ 10% of their brain. If only regular folk could tap that other 90%, they too could become savants, perhaps having telekinetic powers. Savantism, a rare condition in which people with neurodevelopmental disorders, notably autism spectrum disorders,

and/or brain injuries, demonstrate profound and prodigious capacities or abilities far in excess of what would be considered normal. There are only a handful of such differently abled individuals discovered till date who have some extraordinary skills. Kim Peek, for example, known as a "megasant" never forgot a single word of any text he had read in his life. Another strikingly awesome personality, Daniel Tammet, a math wizard can calculate the value of π up to 22,500 decimal places in his head and can learn a new language in just 7 days! Their brain works very differently from ours.

Numbers and symbols for them are just distorted images that can be put together in various forms so as to obtain a singular result. Think of it as a landscape with different features like mountains, trees, lakes, etc. each representing a different value and meaning all put together in one beautiful frame. Isn't it mind-blowing? Scientists have pondered over this anomaly of nature and are yet to arrive on a conclusion as to what makes these special individuals exhibit such superhuman or even supernatural abilities. It can be thought of as one of the final frontiers that mankind is yet to conquer and understand.